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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

Memoirs of the Life of John Constable, Esq., R.A., composed chiefly of his Letters. By C. R. Leslie, R.A. 4to, pp. 363. Longmans.

THIS is a second edition, got up in a peculiar, antique, and handsome manner, congenial to, and worthy of, the subject. The first publication was, we believe, limited to a small number, whilst this is intended for the world at large. And the world at large will find much to delight them in it; artists and amateurs in art great instruction, and every class of readers useful intelligence and agreeable amusement. For Constable was not only a remarkable man, with remarkable qualities to attract attention; but he was a very original and very natural man, full of unborrowed ideas and kindly affections and mother-wit to win his way to our hearts, and fix the individual there whilst we admired the painter in his charming English landscapes. We know not what materials Mr. Leslie had to cull from; but we feel that he has performed his part with infinite taste and discretion; giving the opinions of a competent authority upon the productions of his contemporary and friend, and bringing out the estimable points of his amiable private character in every relation of life with unaffected simplicity and consequent effect.

Of such a volume we cannot speak too highly. Somewhat predisposed towards it by our acquaintance, during many years, with its interesting subject, we might be more readily touched by its statements; but independently of that inclination, its intrinsic merits must, we are sure, recommend it wherever it is seen.

The portrait, prefixed, from a drawing by Leslie, is very like, and finally indicates the single-mindedness and genius which were the most striking attributes of John Constable. He was born 11th June, 1776, at East Bergholt, in Suffolk, in a beautifully rural country; and the scenery of his childhood was his inspiration to the day of his death. His father, Mr. Golding Constable, was a man of property, amongst which was included several windmills, and also early associates of the artist's hands and mind. His predilection for art was developed in very boyhood, and before he reached the age of sixteen he became devotedly fond of painting. But we need not trace his progress through schools, nor his first efforts with the brush. We trust it will better please our readers to have our illustrations of the volume divided into several heads, and by this means show them, as far as we can, how it stands in regard to personal biography, arts, and anecdotes.

PERSONAL.

Constable married a Miss Bicknell, and their courtship is marked by equal love, constancy, and prudence.

"The death of this excellent woman [his mother] was felt as a very heavy blow. She had cheered and encouraged him in his profession, and obtained for him introductions calculated to advance his prospects, at a time when his other friends considered them hopeless. She, more than any one else, shared in all the anxieties

arising out of his engagement with Miss Bicknell, which she hoped to see happily fulfilled; and she neglected no means, however trifling, to propitiate Dr. Rhudde, as a single instance will shew. Constable had sent her a present of a large drawing in water-colours of Bergholt Church, which, in the letter she wrote to acknowledge its receipt, she described as "the most beautiful drawing she had ever beheld." But it immediately occurred to her to present it to the rector, which she did in the name of her son. It was useless. Dr. Rhudde acknowledged the present in a polite letter: but, unwilling to remain the obliged person, he enclosed a bank note, requesting Constable to purchase with it something to remember him by 'when he should be no more.' The death of Miss Bicknell's mother, who had long been ill, occurred not many days after that of Mrs. Constable.—To Miss Bicknell. East Bergholt, May 21st, 1815. My dearest love, When I left town it was not my intention to have remained so long absent. I received your kind note, and regretted you were so situated that you could not see me. I called, however, the day before I came here; and although your note had somewhat prepared me for the afflicting intelligence which I received at your door, I could not but be shocked, as I was not aware that your dear mother was so near her removal. It is singular that we should, both of us, have lost our nearest friends, the nearest we can have in this world, within so short a time; and now, more than ever, do I feel the want of your society."

The congenial lady writes:

"Putney Heath, September 9th. I cannot resist, my dear John, taking up my pen again, fearing you should have deemed my last letter unworthy of notice; and I may, perhaps, be absent a week after the 16th; and then, I hope, you would have thought my silence long. How charmed you must be with this long continuance of fine weather. I should suppose for many seasons you have not painted so much in the open air. Nature and you must be greater friends than ever. I am suffering a little today, from being out late yesterday. Is it not a sad thing to be so delicate? I must not be out after sunset. It is easy enough to avoid it, so that trouble is soon got over. The moon shall tempt me no more. I regret you have not seen Mrs. . . ., she is much interested in our future welfare. Fortune, I am sure, delights to torment us. But hold, my pen! I do not think I am ever long dejected. Tell me what you have been reading. But I suppose you have not found much time for it. I am studying French quite hard, and I find it very amusing. . . . My dear John, good bye; you will allow this to be, for me, quite a long letter! Will the end of October oblige you to return to London? Though I long to see you, I am always sorry when you leave Suffolk. It must be so pleasant for you to be there. I should never like to leave the country while a single leaf remained on the trees."

And again:

"Spring Garden Terrace, December 28th. I dare say, my dear John, you are expecting to hear from me, and I am expecting to hear from

you, as your last letter led me to suppose you would write again in a day or two. But it is painting that takes up all your time and attention. How I do dislike pictures; I cannot bear the sight of them; but I am very cross, am I not? You may spare yourself telling me I am very unreasonable, for I know it already. But I cannot be reconciled to your spending month after month in the country. You say you have no expectation of remaining in London for some time. At all events it is pleasant intelligence. But I feel how very often the visits here are distressing. I believe you are right to remain where you are: in a comfortable home, and rendering the declining years of your father happy. Whatever attention you can shew him must make your hours pass the more agreeably. Whenever I wish you away, I know I do wrong. I wish we could always like what is right. Henceforth I will endeavour."

The lady's father is made acquainted with the correspondence, and finally consents to the union; which happily took place, and continued with unbroken felicity till the death of his beloved partner almost broke the heart of the husband.

1822. Mr. C. writes to his fast friend, Mr. Fisher of Salisbury:

"I trust you will come to London on your visitation; I shall be much disappointed if you do not. I am about Farrington's house; I think this step necessary; I shall get more by it than my family, in conveniences, though I am loath to leave a place where I have had so much happiness, and where I painted my four landscapes; but there is no end to giving way to fancies; occupation is my sheet-anchor. My mind would soon devour me without it. I felt as if I had lost my arms after my picture was gone to the exhibition. I dare not read this letter over, take it as one of my sketches."

And in October 1823:

"My dear Fisher, Thank you for your kind, amusing, and instructive letter. I shall always be glad to hear any thing that is said of me and my pictures. My object is the improvement of both. I . . ., like most men living on the outskirts of the art, and like followers and attendants on armies, &c., is a great talker of what should be, and this is not always without malignity. Such persons stroll about the foot of Parnassus, only to pull down by the legs those who are laboriously climbing its sides. He may be sincere in what he tells Tinney; he wonders at what is done, and concludes the picture cannot be made better, because he knows no better. I shall write to Tinney, and request the picture, but with a promise not to meddle with it, even if I see any thing material that would improve it, without first informing him of my intention."

At this time a visit to Sir George and Lady Beaumont, at Cole-Orton, is described in a very interesting manner. At its close we read:

"November 25th. 'My very dearest love, I hope nothing will prevent my leaving this place to-morrow afternoon, and that I shall have you in my arms on Thursday morning, and my babies; O dear! how glad I shall be! I feel that I have been at school, and can only hope

* Another portrait of him in his youth, by Gardiner, has the same lineaments.

that my long absence from you may ultimately be to my great and lasting improvement as an artist, and, indeed, in every thing. If you have any friends staying with you, I beg you will dismiss them before my arrival."

"Though Sir George Beaumont and Constable agreed, generally, in their opinions of the old masters, yet their tastes differed materially on some points of art, and their discourse never languished for want of 'an animated no.' A constant communion with pictures, the tints of which are subdued by time, no doubt tends to unfit the eye for the enjoyment of freshness; and Sir George thought Constable too daring in the modes he adopted to obtain this quality; while Constable saw that Sir George often allowed himself to be deceived by the effects of time, of accident, and by the tricks that are, far oftener than is generally supposed, played by dealers, to give mellowness to pictures; and in these matters each was disposed to set the other right. Sir George had placed a small landscape by Gaspar Poussin on his easel, close to a picture he was painting, and said, 'Now, if I can match these tints I am sure to be right.' 'But suppose, Sir George,' replied Constable, 'Gaspar could rise from his grave, do you think he would know his own picture in its present state? or if he did, should we not find it difficult to persuade him that somebody had not smeared tar or cart-grease over its surface, and then wiped it imperfectly off?' At another time Sir George recommended the colour of an old Cremona fiddle for the prevailing tone of every thing, and this Constable answered by laying an old fiddle on the green lawn before the house. Again, Sir George, who seemed to consider the autumnal tints necessary, at least to some part of a landscape, said, 'Do you not find it very difficult to determine where to place your *brown tree*?' And the reply was, 'Not in the least, for I never put such a thing into a picture.' But however opposite in these respects their opinions were, and although Constable well knew that Sir George did not appreciate his works, the intelligence, the wit, and the fascinating and amiable manners of the baronet had gained his heart, and a sincere and lasting friendship subsisted between them. During his visit to Cole-Orton, besides his admirable copies of the Claudes, he made a sketch from a landscape by Rubens, a large sketch of the front of the house, and a drawing of the cenotaph erected to Sir Joshua Reynolds. Constable had never been, nor was he ever again, so long separated from his wife and children as on this occasion; and his anxiety to return, and at the same time his wish to complete the copies he undertook at Cole-Orton, confined him so much to his easel that the visit proved an injury instead of a benefit to his health."

Next year he sold some of his pictures to a French dealer, and writes to Mr. Fisher:

"To what honours are some men born! . . . My Frenchman has sent his agent with the money for the pictures; they are now ready, and look uncommonly well, and I think they cannot fail to melt the stony hearts of the French painters. Think of the lovely valleys and peaceful farmhouses of Suffolk forming part of an exhibition to amuse the gay Parisians! My Lock is liked at the Academy, and indeed it forms a decided feature, and its light cannot be put out, because it is the light of nature, the mother of all that is valuable in poetry, painting, or any thing else where an appeal to the soul is required. The language of the heart is the only one that is universal; and Sterne says he disregards all rules, but makes his way

to the heart as he can. But my execution annoys most of them, and all the scholastic ones. Perhaps the sacrifices I make for lightness and brightness are too great, but these things are the essence of landscape, and my extreme is better than white-lead and oil, and *dado painting*. I sold this picture on the day of the opening for one hundred and fifty guineas, including the frame, to Mr. Morrison. I do hope my exertions will tend towards popularity; but it is you who have so long held my head above water. Although a good deal of the devil is in me, I do think I should have been broken-hearted before this time but for you. Indeed it is worth while to have gone through all I have for the hours and thoughts we have had together. I am in high favour with all the Seymour-Street family, and I look continually back to the great kindness shewn to me in my early days, when it was truly of value to me; for long I tottered on the threshold and floundered in the path, and there never was any young man nearer being lost; but here I am, and I must now take heed where I stand. . . . I have just now engaged to get seven pictures of a small size ready for Paris by August. The large ones are to be exhibited at the Louvre, and my purchasers say they are much looked for at Paris. The director of the Academy at Antwerp, Mr. Vanbree, has been here; he says they will make an impression on the continent. . . . The world is rid of Lord Byron, but the deadly slime of his touch still remains."

Of him in return Mr. Fisher writes:

"I generally leave you wiser than I came to you, and some of your pithy apothegms stick to my memory like a thorn, and give me a prick when I fall a dozing. 'A man is always growing,' you said, 'either upwards or downwards.' I have been trying to grow 'upwards' since we parted. When I consulted you about the Lancasterian Sunday-school in my parish, you advised me to 'be quiet, and do all the good I could.' I took your advice, and the Quakers have, unsolicited, dropped the offensive rules."

Again Constable:

"My Paris affairs go on very well. Though the director, the Count Forbin, gave my pictures very respectable situations in the Louvre in the first instance, yet on being exhibited a few weeks, they advanced in reputation, and were removed from their original situations to a post of honour, two prime places in the principal room. I am much indebted to the artists for their alarm in my favour; but I must do justice to the count, who is no artist I believe, and thought that as the colours are rough, they should be seen at a distance. They found the mistake, and now acknowledge the richness of texture, and attention to the surface of things. They are struck with their vivacity and freshness, things unknown to their own pictures. The truth is, they study (and they are very laborious students) pictures only; and as Northcote says, 'They know as little of nature as a hackney-coach horse does of a pasture.' In fact, it is worse, they make painful studies of individual articles, leaves, rocks, stones, &c., singly, so that they look cut out, without belonging to the whole, and they neglect the look of nature altogether under its various changes."

ARTS.

"Mrs. Constable procured for her son an introduction to Sir George Beaumont, who frequently visited his mother, the Dowager Lady Beaumont, then residing at Dedham. Sir George had seen and expressed himself pleased

with some copies made by Constable in pen and ink from Dorigny's engravings of the cartoons of Raphael; and at the house of the Dowager Lady Beaumont the young artist first saw a picture by Claude, the "Hagar,"* which Sir George often carried with him when he travelled. Constable looked back on the first sight of this exquisite work as an important epoch in his life. But the taste of a young artist is always the most affected by cotemporary art. Sir George Beaumont possessed about thirty drawings in water-colours by Girtin, which he advised Constable to study, as examples of great breadth and truth; and their influence on him may be traced more or less through the whole course of his practice. The first impressions of an artist, whether for good or evil, are never wholly effaced; and as Constable had till now no opportunity of seeing any pictures that he could rely on as guides to the study of nature, it was fortunate for him that he began with Claude and Girtin."

He was sent to pursue his studies in London; and in 1799, in a letter to Mr. Dunthorne, he says:

"I paint by all the daylight we have, and that is little enough. I sometimes see the sky; but imagine to yourself how a pearl must look through a burnt glass. I employ my evenings in making drawings and in reading, and I hope by the former to clear my rent. If I can I shall be very happy. Our friend Smith has offered to take any of my pictures into his shop for sale. He is pleased to find I am reasonable in my prices."

The Smith here spoken of was "Antiquity Smith," the author of the *Life of Nollekens*.

"I have heard Constable say, that under some disappointment, I think it was the rejection, at the Academy, of a view of Flatford Mill, he carried a picture to Mr. West, who said: 'Don't be disheartened, young man, we shall hear of you again; you must have loved nature very much before you could have painted this.' He then took a piece of chalk, and shewed Constable how he might improve the chiaroscuro by some additional touches of light between the stems and branches of the trees, saying, 'Always remember, sir, that light and shadow never stand still.' Sir Constable said it was the best lecture, because a practical one, on chiaroscuro he ever heard. Mr. West at the same time said to him, 'Whatever object you are painting, keep in mind its prevailing character rather than its accidental appearance (unless in the subject there is some peculiar reason for the latter), and never be content until you have transferred that to canvass. In your skies, for instance, always aim at *brightness*, although there are states of the atmosphere in which the sky itself is not bright. I do not mean that you are not to paint solemn or lowering skies, but even in the darkest effects there should be brightness. Your darks should look like the darks of silver, not of lead or of slate.' This advice was not addressed to an inattentive ear."

In 1802 Constable writes:

"For these few weeks past I believe I have thought more seriously of my profession, than at any other time of my life; of that which is the surest way to excellence. I am just returned from a visit to Sir George Beaumont's pictures with a deep conviction of the truth of Sir Joshua Reynolds's observation, that 'there

* "This little treasure is now in the National Gallery, where it is called 'The Annunciation,' but the spring by which the female is seated, and the action of the angel who points to the buildings in the distance, leave little doubt that Claude's intention was to represent the first flight of Hagar from the presence of her mistress."

is no easy way of becoming a good painter.' For the last two years I have been running after pictures, and seeking the truth at second-hand. I have not endeavoured to represent nature with the same elevation of mind with which I set out, but have rather tried to make my performances look like the work of other men. I am come to a determination to make no idle visits this summer, nor to give up my time to commonplace people. I shall return to Bergholt, where I shall endeavour to get a pure and unaffected manner of representing the scenes that may employ me. There is little or nothing in the exhibition worth looking up to. *There is room enough for a natural painter.* The great vice of the present day is *bravura*, an attempt to do something beyond the truth. Fashion always had, and will have, its day; but truth in all things only will last, and can only have just claims on posterity. I have reaped considerable benefit from exhibiting; it shews me where I am, and in fact tells me what nothing else could."

"In 1818 he sent to the Academy, 'Landscape, breaking up of a Shower,' three other landscapes, 'A Gothic Porch,' and 'A Group of Elms,' the two last being drawings in lead pencil; and to the British Gallery he sent, 'A Cottage in a Corn-field,' probably exhibited at the Academy the year before. The cottage in this little picture is closely surrounded by the corn, which on the side most shaded from the sun remains green, while over the rest of the field it has ripened; one of many circumstances that may be discovered in Constable's landscapes, which mark them as the productions of an incessant observer of nature. But these and other latent beauties passed wholly unnoticed in the exhibitions; indeed, the pictures that contained them were for the most part unheeded, while more showy works by artists whose very names are now nearly forgotten were the favourites of the day. Constable's art was never more perfect, perhaps never so perfect, as at this period of his life."

[To be continued.]

The Autobiography and Correspondence of Sir Simonds D'Ewes, Bart., during the Reigns of James I. and Charles I. Edited by James Orchard Halliwell, Esq., F.R.S., &c. 2 vols. 8vo. Bentley.

THE sources of historical information have been so much drawn upon within the last half century, that it is no easy matter in our day to discover documents of any great value or extent which convey sufficient information and amusement to render them acceptable to the general reader. Our public libraries have been too long and well known to render this a subject of surprise; but even in obscure collections, which have only been lately accessible to the historian, the class of MSS. to which we refer are of very rare occurrence. We are, therefore, somewhat surprised to find that a work so curious and interesting as the autobiography of Sir Simonds D'Ewes should have so long escaped the notice of the enterprising editors and publishers who have given to the world so many similar works of less importance.

Sir Simonds D'Ewes was high-sheriff of Suffolk and a member of parliament in the earlier part of the seventeenth century. In principles, he leaned to the puritan party, and subsequently joined the parliament, although his views were too moderate for the democrats of that day, who suspected him of a leaning towards his fallen sovereign, and accordingly removed him from their councils. The diary now published extends from 1602 to 1636,

and is written in an agreeable old style, often, however, more remarkable for the quaintness of its language than for any depth of reflection. The latter is a quality scarcely looked for in a work of this nature, which has many other attractions in the way of historical anecdote and valuable illustrations of the manners of the times. We have selected the following extracts somewhat at random, as examples of the former. They will at least serve to shew the manner in which D'Ewes treats of the affairs of his own time.

"Upon the 4th day of November was Prince Charles created Prince of Wales, at Whitehall. I came thither after the ceremonies of the inauguration were ended in the morning, but at dinner saw him in his coronet and robes, and the king his father looking out at a gallery upon him, accompanied with some ambassadors, and the Earl of Buckingham his favourite; of whom afterwards I had a more perfect sight, by reason his majesty sent him down to his highness while he sat at dinner, upon some complimentary message; between whom and the prince there passed a little discourse, but intermixed with many mutual smiles, which I very exactly viewed, standing very near the prince's chair all the time. The Duke of Lennox with divers other lords sat at the same table with the prince, a pretty distance from him, in their robes and with coronets on their heads; next him stood, bareheaded in their cloaks, the Earl of Southampton, who supplied the place of his cup-bearer, and the Earl of Dorset, who performed the office of his carver during the continuance of that dinner. The prince drank to the Knights of the Bath, who dined at a side-table on his right hand, and the Duke of Lennox drank to the king. • • •

"There had long since writs of summons gone forth for the calling of a parliament, of which all men that had any religion hoped much good, and daily prayed for a happy issue. For both France and Germany needed support and help from England, or the true professors of the gospel were likely to perish in each nation, under the power and tyranny of the anti-christian adversary. It should have begun with this Michaelmas term upon the 23d day of this month, being Tuesday, but was deferred till the Tuesday following, the 30th day of the same month. I got a convenient place in the morning, not without some danger escaped, to see his majesty pass to parliament in state. It is only worth the inserting in this particular, that Prince Charles rode with a rich coronet upon his head between the sergeants at arms carrying maces, and the pensioners carrying their pole-axes, both on foot. Next before his majesty Henry Vere, Earl of Oxford, lord great chamberlain of England, with Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel, earl marshal of England, on his left hand, both bareheaded. Then followed his majesty, with a rich crown upon his head, and most royal carapasons. I, amongst the nobility, especially viewed the Lord Seymour, Earl of Hartford, now some 83 years old, and even decrepit with age. He was born, as I was informed, the same day King Edward VI. was ripped out of the Lady Jane Seymour's womb, his aunt. In the king's short progress from Whitehall to Westminster, these passages following were accounted somewhat remarkable: First, that he spake often and lovingly to the people, standing thick and threefold on all sides to behold him, 'God bless ye! God bless ye!' contrary to his former hasty and passionate custom, which often in his sudden distemper would bid a p— or a plague on such as flocked to see

him. Secondly, that though the windows were filled with many great ladies as he rode along, yet that he spake to none of them but to the Marquis of Buckingham's mother and wife, who was the sole daughter and heiress of the Earl of Rutland. Thirdly, that he spake particularly and bowed to the Count of Gondomar, the Spanish ambassador. And fourthly, that looking up to one window as he passed, full of gentlewomen or ladies, all in yellow bands, he cried out aloud, 'A p— take ye! are ye there?' at which being much ashamed, they all withdrew themselves suddenly from the window. Doctor Andrews preached in Westminster Church before the king, prince, and lords spiritual and temporal. Being afterwards assembled in the upper house, and the king seated on his throne, he made a pithy and elegant speech, promising the removal of monopolies, of which there were at this time seven hundred in the kingdom, granted by letters patent under the broad seal, to the enriching of some few projectors, and the impoverishing of all the kingdom beside. Next, he promised, with the people's assistance and consent, to aid the King of Bohemia, his son-in-law, and not to enforce the Spanish match without their consent: and therefore in conclusion desired them cheerfully and speedily to agree upon a sufficient supply of his wants by subsidies, promising them for the time to come to play the good husband, and that in part he had done so already. I doubt not, howsoever, these blessed promises took not a due and proportionable effect according as the loyal subject did hope; yet did King James (a prince whose piety, learning, and gracious government after-ages may miss and wish for) really at this time intend the performance of them. But I well remember, that divers weeks before the parliament began, most men seeing the Bohemian cause utterly overthrown, which the king might in all human reason easily have supported had he but appeared for his son-in-law in time; and the potency of the aforesaid Spanish ambassador still with him, notwithstanding his master's forces were now ruining and conquering the palatinate itself, did fear no good would ensue to the church or commonwealth by it; but that it would prove true of this ensuing parliament, what one had wittily verified of the last:

'Many faults complained of, a few things amended, A subsidy granted, the parliament ended!'

And yet, I say, I am persuaded that his majesty now foreseeing the formidable greatness the house of Austria was likely to grow unto, did really intend to interest himself in the Bohemian and German wars; for he did not only at this time appoint a select council of war, had the monthly charge exactly cast up for the maintenance of an army of twenty or thirty thousand men, horse and foot, but most graciously entertained the Low Country States' ambassador, who had his first audience on the 28th day of this instant January, being Sunday, in the afternoon at Whitehall, his errand being to offer the king to join their forces with him for the restitution of his son-in-law; assuring him that he much rejoiced at his coming, and that he had now called a parliament for that end and purpose also. But whether by the increase of the enemy's successes and victories abroad, or the subtle contrivements of the Spanish ambassador at home, I know not, or by what other wicked instruments I am not able to set down assuredly, all these noble and Christian resolutions came to nothing; so as, before the end of this spring, the princes of the Union were forced to accord and accommodate themselves

with Spinola for their own safety, to disband their armies, and to leave the palatinate to his entire conquest."

The following is a curious contemporary account of the assassination of Villiers:

"The strange story of whose fatal end I shall now relate a little particularly. In this I shall set down the truth as near as I can, and heartily wish I were able to say any good of him: whose wife, named Katherine, sole daughter and heir of Francis Manners, Earl of Rutland, was, and still is, my wife's kinswoman, by Frances, daughter and one of the coheirs of Sir Henry Knyvet, Kt., of Charlton, in the county of Wiltshire, her mother. Of the said duke's rising, and of many of his actions during the reign of King James and King Charles, I have before spoken. He was most of this month of August at and near Portsmouth, preparing a fleet for the relief and viualling of Rochelle, which the French king had besieged both by land and sea, and had so strongly blocked up the water channel before it, as it was very probable he could never have relieved it, had he lived to have gone with the navy himself. Whether he meant sincerely in thus deferring his journey so long, I know not; but most certain it is, had sufficient store of corn only been sent in but six or seven months before, which ten sail of merchant-ships might have carried into the town, that inestimable place, had been saved from ruin. The duke himself seemed confident he should do the work, and therefore made all the haste he could to get all things in readiness for his departure. Some of his friends had advised him, how generally he was hated in England, and how needful it would be for his greater safety to wear some coat of mail or some other secret defensive armour: which the duke slighting, said, 'It needs not; there are no Roman spirits left.' August the 23d, being Saturday, the duke having eaten his breakfast between eight and nine o'clock in the morning, in one Mr. Mason's house in Portsmouth, was then hastening away to the king, who lay at Reswick, some five miles distant, to have some speedy conference with him. Being come to the further part of the entry leading out of the parlour into the hall of the house, he had there some conference with Sir Thomas Frier, Kt., a colonel, and stooping down in taking his leave of him, John Felton, a gentleman, having watched his opportunity, thrust a long knife with a white hilt, he had secretly about him, with great strength and violence, into his breast, under his left pap, cutting the diaphragm and lungs, and piercing the very heart itself. The duke, having received the stroke, instantly clapping his right hand on his sword-hilt, cried out, 'God's wounds! the villain hath killed me.' Some report his last words otherwise, little differing for substance from these: and it might have been wished that his end had not been so sudden, nor his last words mixed with so impious an expression. He was attended by many noblemen and leaders, yet none could see or prevent the stroke. His duchess and the Countess of Anglessey, the wife of Christopher Villiers, Earl of Anglessey, his younger brother, being in an upper room, and hearing the noise in the hall, into which they had carried the duke, ran presently to a gallery that looked down into it, and there beholding the duke's blood gush out abundantly from his breast, nose, and mouth (with which his speech after those his first words had been immediately stopped), they broke out into pitiful outcries, and raised great lamentation. He pulled out the knife himself, and being carried by his servants unto the table that stood in the same hall, having struggled

with death near upon a quarter of an hour, at length he gave up the ghost about ten of the clock the same forenoon, and lay a long time after he was dead upon the hall-table there. Mr. Felton, that gave him the deadly wound, was a gentleman of a very ancient family of gentry in Suffolk, very valourous, and of a stout spirit. He had been a lieutenant under a captain in the late unfortunate voyage to the island of Rhé; and was before also employed in the expedition to Cadiz under Sir Edward Cecil, Viscount Wimbledon, in the year 1625. There had been an ancient quarrel between him and Sir Henry Hungate, Kt., whose secret lust he had discovered, and received from him a most base revenge, being wounded by him in his bed very dangerously; so as Sir Henry, having afterwards by some means pacified him, yet when he saw him recover, ever feared him, and therefore was, I believe, the chief instrument with the duke, in whose favour he had a great share, to deprive Mr. Felton once, if not twice, of the captain's place of that company over which he commanded as lieutenant, which was due unto him by the rules and laws of the wars, upon the death or remove of the captain. And this caused him to work his revenge on the duke's person, said some of the duke's friends and followers. But Mr. Felton, even to his death, avowed the contrary, and that the love only of the public good induced him to that act. For, having read the remonstrance the House of Commons preferred to the king in the late session of parliament, by which the duke was branded to be a capital enemy to church and state, and that there was no public justice to be had against him, he had strong inward workings and resolutions to sacrifice himself for the church and state. Yet knowing the danger he should run into, and fearing it might be a temptation of the devil, he had confided with it for near upon two months' space, and sought God's deliverance from it by fasting and prayer; and when his resolutions were still the same to accomplish it, he then took the incitation to proceed from God himself, redoubled his courage, and heartily prayed for divine assistance to finish it. That he had no abettor, counsellor, or assistant in it, but only proceeded in it upon private discussion and deliberation with himself alone: so as his mother and sisters, who were at first imprisoned upon suspicion, were afterwards, upon his testimony and their own confession, set free. That he undertook so dangerous and difficult an enterprise, with a sincere aim of public good, is most probable; because, when he sheathed the knife in the duke's breast, just at the instant, 'God,' said he, 'have mercy on thy soul!' which plainly shewed he had no private aims of personal revenge against him, but had greater care of Buckingham's soul than Buckingham himself had. Besides, had his conscience accused him at the present after the fact, he would not have neglected to have escaped, which his bitterest enemies confess he might have done, amidst the confusion that followed the blow; when every man being busy about the duke, he passed quietly unmarked and unpursued out of the said hall where he slew Buckingham into the kitchen of the same house. And, after returning again into the hall, he averred first himself to have been the author of the duke's death, before any other approached him for it, and had there been slain outright by some of the duke's followers, had not Sir Dudley Carlton, Baron of Imbercourt, and some others, hindered it. Mr. Felton himself also suspecting, as it seems, some such sudden end, had written the cause and ground of that his hazardous undertaking in a piece of paper, and fastened to his hatband,

that in case he had been instantly slain upon the place, it might have testified for him that he only aimed at the public good in that action. The writing* was as followeth, consisting of two several and divided pieces, with his name subscribed to either of them.

'Let no man commend for doing it, but rather discommend themselves; for if God had not taken away their hearts for their sins, he had not gone so long unpunished.' JOHN FELTON, to

'That man in my opinion is cowardly and base, and deserveth neither the name of a gentleman nor a soldier, that is unwilling to sacrifice his life for the honour of God and the good of his king and country. But JOHN FELTON, And so strongly was this persuasion fixed in his mind, that he had removed the enemy of God, the king, and the commonwealth out of the way, as after his removal from Portsmouth (where he was imprisoned immediately upon his taking) to the Tower of London, and that divers divines had dealt with him about the fact, and had in some measure convinced him he had sinned in it, because of the Apostle Paul's rule, that we must not do evil that good may come of it, 'I confess,' said he, 'I did sin in killing the duke; and I am sorry that I killed a most wicked, impudent man so suddenly, but I doubt not but that great good shall result to the church and commonwealth by it; and I assure myself that God hath pardoned this and all my other sins in and through the merits and blood of Jesus Christ my Saviour.' The news being carried to the king the same morning, I have heard it certainly reported, that striking his breast with his hand, 'Alas,' said he, 'can prevent a stroke from heaven?' in which speech, whether he alluded to God's decree, or to his secret and just judgments, I cannot tell. Certainly the Duke of Buckingham had highly provoked God by his extreme lust, ambition, pride, gluttony, and other sins; not contenting himself with any measure of honour, till he had stripped all the ancient nobility and peers of England by a dukedom, although his condition had been very poor and mean but a few years before. He was the likeliest Henry Lorain duke of Guise, in most of the later passages of his life and death that could possibly be; only they differed in that Guise was a prince born, but Buckingham was but a younger son of an ordinary family of gentry, of which the coat-armour was so mean, as neither in this age or of later years, without any ground, right, or authority that I could ever see, they deserted their own coat-armour and bore the arms of Weyland, a Suffolk family, being argent on a cross gules, 5 escallops or. Some wit to enhance the rare confidence of Mr. Felton, in that he fled not after the work was finished, framed the truth of it out of his very name in this following anagram:

John Felton, ad deservit odii
No'h! fle not.

I will in this place a little anticipate the time, and end his story. Being removed from Portsmouth in September to the Tower of London, and well lodged and used, having the diet accustomed to prisoners in that place allowed him, he was at one time there threatened by Sir Edward Sackville, Earl of Dorset, that he should be forced upon the rack to confess who were privy with him and consenting to the duke's death. 'I have,' said he, 'already told the

* * The original note written by Felton is still preserved, and differs very slightly from the copy given by D'Ewes; though the latter is in error in saying it was written on two separate slips of paper, it being all in one, but the paragraphs in the original are transposed. This curious document is in the possession of Mr. Upcott.

truth on that point, upon my salvation; and if I be further questioned by torture, I will accuse you, and you only, my lord of Dorset, to be of conspiracy with me. At last he was brought to his open trial at the King's Bench bar, in Westminster Hall, on Thursday, the 27th day of November, in the morning; and the knife, all defiled and besmeared with blood, as it came out of the duke's breast, was laid before him in open court. He instantly acknowledged himself to be the author; and so received the sentence of condemnation. The next day he received the sacrament of the Lord's Supper in the forenoon, with great desire and devotion; and the day following, Saturday, November the 29th, he was hanged at Tyburn, in the morning, where he made a very pious and Christian end, still affirming to the last, that he had never slain the duke but that he assured himself thereby to save church and state from insinuation and unavoidable ruin. His family was, doubtless, more noble and ancient than the Duke of Buckingham's, and his end much more blessed than the duke's, who was afterwards interred as obscurely at Westminster, as Felton suffered ignominiously, having this misery even after death—to be more prodigiously flattered in his epitaph in Westminster Church, than he had been by all his sycophants in his lifetime. I have heard Sir Robert Cotton affirm, that persons of that kind, of which most were young indiscreet gentlemen, had so prevailing a power with him, as was contrary often to those safe counsels he had received from wise men of great experience; and when he had solemnly resolved to put the latter in practice, he was presently transversed or overruled by his flatterers to fall upon new and dangerous resolves, which at last embarked him into the general hatred of most men. What the duke's religion was, I am not able to aver; yet it was in parliament that he procured himself to be elected chancellor of the University of Cambridge by the Arminian party, or the enemies of God's grace and providence, which, till of late years, have called themselves anabaptists, being the followers of Michael Servetus, Laelius Socinus, and Sebastian Castellio, and have also been so named and written against by the orthodox Protestant party for near upon four score years last past; and were first called Arminians after the death of James Arminius, professor of divinity of Leyden in Holland, about thirty years past; who stole much of that doctrine out of his great master Sebastian Castellio, or out of the works of Robert Bellarmine and other Jesuits. For his private practice, the duke's devotion was very small, so as at the very sacrament of baptism, when he was a witness with some comely and beautiful women, he hath been observed to wink and smile on them when the minister came to that passage to demand if they forsook the carnal desires of the flesh, so as they would not follow, nor be led by them. It was reported the duke had some prediction or forewarning given him to beware of this month of August, as fatal to him, of the truth of which I can say nothing. But this is most certain, that there was a chronogram out of his name some weeks or months, or weeks at least, before his death, which contained the present year 1628, very exactly, and two distichs made upon it, imprecating the same year might be his last, which are not unworthy the inserting here as followeth:

15 500 510 5100 1 1000 1
 GEORGE VS D VX BV CK RINGHA M LRE MDCKXXVIII.
 Lato nam seculo tandem sol perituli annum,
 Noni non vident quessumus alme diem.

Thy numerous name with this year doth agree,
 But twentie-nine, heaven grant thou never see!

The sense of both the distichs are the same;

but the author was a better English poet than a Latin. One William Harreise, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, son and heir-apparent of Sir William Harreise, an Essex knight, was said to be the author of them, and of this hexastich following, of a like imprecatory nature as the former, which, being read backwards, seems to be a prayer for the duke's prosperity, and was doubtless made in imitation of those verses which that learned poetical Scot, Mr. George Buchanan, made, touching a pope of his time, which, being vulgarly known, I omit to mention.

There were Puseyites in the seventeenth century, as our next extract will shew. If D'Ewes had been our contemporary, he would have rivalled M'Neil or Close:

"At home, many wicked anabaptistical or popishly affected divines and scholars, in both universities and elsewhere, maintained in the schools and pulpits justification by works, free-will, Christ's bodily presence in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and a world of other corrupt and noisome tenets, which made my soul to fetch many deep sighs, and my tongue to pray daily that God would preserve his gospel and truth amongst us. One Dr. Beale (being made master of St. John's College in Cambridge) caused such a general adoration to and towards the altar and sacraments to be practised, that many godly fellows and scholars of the house left their places to avoid the abomination; so as to them this necessary exilement was a real persecution. Mr. Fox, in his 'Martyrology,' reports, that in the beginning of Queen Mary's reign, that was the first college in Cambridge from which divers fellows and other students departed, so to avoid the storm they saw ready to fall upon their heads. That former example caused my heart to ache at the later event which happened during this summer preceding. Yet I could not but wonder withal at God's providence, that this year, especially in the spring-time, put into the hearts of so many godly persons, as well women as men, to hazard themselves, their children, and estates, to go into New England in America, at least three thousand miles from this kingdom by sea, there to plant, in respect to the doctrinal part, one of the most absolutely holy, orthodox, and well-governed churches in Christendom, or in that other world: so as what learned Beza writes of Calvin's being put out of Geneva by certain wicked men (whither he was afterwards recalled again with honour by the whole city) that the devil was therein deceived, because instead of the church at Geneva, which was much weakened by his departure, he raised up a new French church and congregation at Strasbourg in Germany. That I may say of those prelates and others now in England, who endeavouring, ever since the year 1630, to increase the multitude and burden of the ceremonies and intermixtures in the church, that so they might oppress the consciences or ruin the estates of many godly Christians, falsely by them nicknamed Puritans, although free from all schismatical and idle opinions; they have, on the contrary, been the only causes and instruments of sending many thousands into America itself, where yet God hath blessed them, not only with outward safety and plenty, but with the power and purity also of God's ordinances, free from all burthensome ceremonies and superstitious admixtures. For mine own part, I have ever maintained obedience to the magistrate in all lawful things, and that the conscience ought not to be enforced; nay, I can honour and esteem a virtuous or learned papist, who being educated in that religion, sup-

poseth it to be the truth. But for men to call themselves Protestants, as Bishop Laud, Bishop Wren, and their wicked adherents, to swallow up the preferments of our church, to inveigh against popery in word only, and in the main to project and plot the ruin of the truth and gospel, to maintain and publish the most gross and seditious errors of the Romish synagogue, to cause God's day to be profaned, his public service to be poisoned by idolatry and superstition, his faithful and painful ministers to be censured, suspended, deprived, and exiled, and to threaten a speedy ruin to the power of godliness,—this my soul abhors as the highest step of wickedness and of prevarication against God and his honour: I cannot but account the pope, the cardinals, and Jesuits themselves, saints, in comparison of these men. For as a few traitors within a besieged city are of a greater danger for the ruin of it than a whole army without, so doubtless what Theodore Beza saith of the Pseudo-Lutherans of Germany is true of these men, that they do no less impudently and furiously weaken and undermine the gospel of truth, than if they were hired by the pope himself at great rates. Besides, the gross heresies and horrible abominations of the Romish synagogue are so many and notorious, as I dare boldly aver, that it is impossible for any true Protestant, that knows but the truth in some indifferent measure, and leads his life in some proportion like a pious Christian, ever willingly and by way of choice and election to turn papist, either in whole or in part. But see by daily experience, when divines, scholars, and others, are given up to a profane, vicious, and atheistical life, they so far detest and hate such as be godly, as by a just judgment of God they are at length given up to the hatred of the truth itself also, and readily take in their defence and creed any popish, pelagian, or anabaptistical tenets."

On the whole, we look upon the present volumes as very interesting additions to our historical literature; and we think there is sufficient entertainment for the general reader to secure them a good circulation. We have not attempted even an outline of the contents; for the subjects introduced are so numerous that our space would not admit of any regular abstract; but the extracts we have given, without being perhaps the most interesting to many readers, are fair specimens of the general nature of the work, to which we may perhaps return at another opportunity.

Fitz of Fitz-ford; a Legend of Devon. By Mrs. Bray. London, Longman and Co. 1846.

This forms the fourth volume of the present series, and the first of Mrs. Bray's local novels, which (even as did the local novels of the magician of the north) have obtained for this lady a name in the west of England, where she is not inappropriately called the *Sylph of the West*. Mrs. Bray, it is well known, has long resided in Devonshire, and has, with enthusiasm, availed herself of her position, in seizing on the fragments of family legend and tradition which still linger in the wild and beautiful land of her adoption; and (to use her own words) she has on such a "foundation of truth raised many a superstructure of fiction." To this we may add, there is a peculiar character in her local compositions, which differs from most of her other works of fiction, and in our estimation, none of her best writings excel those of this class. The reason, we think, is obvious; she paints from what she herself sees and feels. We have somewhere met the remark, "that if a man would become a poet, he should take

up his dwelling in a mountainous region;" and as works of high wrought imagination and feeling (though they be not written either in blank verse or in rhyme) unquestionably belong to the poetic order, we do not hesitate to say, that we have in these a striking instance of the truth of the remark. Mrs. B. has an ardent love of nature, and is a close observer of all her works. And what a field do the mountain regions of Dartmoor, the lovely vales and streams of Devon, and the wild shores of Cornwall, present to view! With what evident delight does she depict them! Nor with less does she dwell upon the remains of other times, in the antiquated mansions of the forefathers of the west; their tapestried chambers and Gothic halls; their old pictures and their armour; and on every fragment connected with their history, either in written record or from oral tradition: whilst their customs and superstitions, still lingering among the rural population of these woods and vales, have each and all a charm for her, and have supplied a wide field for the play of her fancy and the exercise of her peculiar powers. We learnt from the general preface, prefixed to the first volume, that many of the characters, and all the descriptions, in *Fitz of Fitz-ford* were drawn from nature; and that the historical claims of this work refer more to the spirit of the age in which the action is carried on than to any historic events; the tale itself being of the domestic class, and founded on a romantic incident of the family of Fitz, related by Prince in his *Worthies of Devon*. Combining this with a tradition even yet more striking (respecting Judge Glanville, of Tavistock, who, in his legal capacity, was called on to pronounce the sentence of death on his own daughter), our authoress determined to make them the foundation on which to build her story. Both traditions have their date in the reign of Elizabeth. Lady Howard, a most awe-inspiring character in this work, she tells us, is also founded on a real character of the time. It is said this Lady Howard still revisits the world to commence a nightly penance from the ruined archway of the gate-house at Fitz-ford, a sheeted spectre, seated in a coach of bones, with a skeleton hound by her side. A sufficient proof, Mrs. Bray remarks, that the woman who has left such a name of terror to posterity must have been a fearful personage during her life. The elder Fitz (the Sir Hugh of the novel) was celebrated alike for his learning and credulity, for his legal skill and astrological calculations. According to his biographer, Prince, he really did, on the birth of his only son, predict the very extraordinary events (the story of the novel) which so many years afterwards befel him. The truth of Glanning's fate, in which that son of Fitz bore so prominent a part, is established beyond all doubt, as it is recorded on his tomb. This accomplishment of the prediction assisted in keeping alive in the west the spirit of credulity respecting the science of judicial astrology. On this subject we may repeat the remark, that extraordinary predictions sometimes help to bring about their own accomplishment by the effects they produce on the mind of the individual concerning whom they have been uttered. And Mrs. Bray well observes, that the ardent character of the young Sir John Fitz "might have been formed under the fatal influence of his father's fearful forebodings respecting his inevitable destiny." So much for the very curious fragments of tradition and legend on which this work is raised. For the rest, it is but justice to say, that in many scenes of the tale there is great power and force; for instance, the scene in which the old house-

keeper at Fitz-ford, Mrs. Alice, relates to Barnabas, the town school-master, and her friends assembled round the fireside, the tale of Judge Glanville in the open court passing the sentence of death on his daughter, which for its simple pathos and its imposing effect has nothing superior. Amongst other striking examples, we would also name that description where John Fitz parts from Margaret (a sweetly drawn character); where he subsequently breaks in at the marriage-banquet; the death-bed of old Sir Hugh; and the scenes between Lady Howard and the woman who is at once her tutress and tool, Betsy Grimal; also where the same fearful woman sets on the bloodhound, Redfang, to track the lurking place of the wounded Standwich. Nor must we forget Levi, the Jew, or his little nephew, the orphan Benjamin, characters at once originally and finely portrayed. *Fitz of Fitz-ford* is unquestionably one of the most successful of Mrs. Bray's admirable local novels.

JOURNAL OF AN AFRICAN CRUISER.

[Second notice: conclusion.]

OUR previous notice of this work was occupied principally with the horrors of war, from which we turn to the following touching account of a singular and fatal disease:

"We arrived at Maumee's town, a village of thirty or forty huts, where a considerable slave-trade was carried on, until broken up by the colonists under Governor Ashman. Old Maumee still resides here, and cherishes a bitter hatred against the Liberians, and all Americans and Englishmen, as having caused the ruin of her profitable commerce. The old hag was not now at home, having obeyed the custom of the country by retiring to a more secluded spot, for the purpose of nursing a sick grand-daughter. * * * Having procured a guide, we crossed the river, and, at the mouth of Logan's creek, exchanged our boat for a large canoe, in which we followed the windings of the deep and narrow inlet for nearly two miles. This brought us to a village of six huts. Without ceremony, we entered the dwelling of the old queen (who was busied about her household affairs), and looked around for her grand-daughter, to see whom was the principal object of our excursion. On my former visit to Maumee's town, four or five months ago, this girl excited a great deal of admiration by her beauty and charming simplicity. She was then thirteen or fourteen years of age, a bright mulatto, with large and soft black eyes, and the most brilliantly white teeth in the world. Her figure, though small, is perfectly symmetrical. She is the darling of the old queen, whose affections exhaust themselves upon her with all the passionate fire of her temperament—and the more unreservedly, because the girl's own mother is dead. We entered the hut, as I have said, without ceremony, and looked about us for the beautiful grand-daughter. But, on beholding the object of our search, a kind of remorse or dread came over us, such as often affects those who intrude upon the awfulness of slumber. The girl lay asleep in the adjoining apartment on a mat that was spread over the hard ground, and with no pillow beneath her cheek. One arm was by her side—the other above her head—and she slept so quietly, and drew such imperceptible breath, that I scarcely thought her alive. With some little difficulty she was roused, and awoke with a frightened cry—a strange and broken murmur—as if she were looking dimly out of her sleep, and knew not whether our figures were real, or only the phantasies of a dream.

Her eyes were wild and glassy, and she seemed to be in pain. While awake, there was a nervous twitching about her mouth and in her fingers; but, being again extended on the mat, and left to herself, these symptoms of diquietude passed away, and she almost immediately sank again into the deep and heavy sleep in which we found her. As her eyes gradually closed their lids, the sunbeams, struggling through the small crevices between the reeds of the hut, glimmered down about her head. Perhaps it was only the nervous motion of her fingers; but it seemed as if she were trying to catch the golden rays of the sun and make playthings of them—or else to draw them into her soul, and illuminate the slumber that looked so misty and dark to us. This poor doomed girl had been suffering—no, not suffering; for, except when forcibly aroused, there appears to be no uneasiness—but she had been lingering two months in a disease peculiar to Africa. It is called the 'sleepy disease,' and is considered incurable. The persons attacked by it are those who take little exercise, and live principally on vegetables, particularly cassady and rice. Some ascribe it altogether to the cassady, which is supposed to be strongly narcotic. Not improbably the climate has much influence, the disease being most prevalent in low and marshy situations. Irresistible drowsiness continually weighs down the patient, who can be kept awake only for the few moments needful to take a little food. When this lethargy has lasted three or four months, death comes—with a tread that the patient cannot hear, and makes the slumber but a little more sound. I found the aspect of Maumee's beautiful grand-daughter inconceivably affecting. It was strange to behold her so quietly involved in sleep—from which it might be supposed she would awake so full of youthful life—and yet to know that this was no refreshing slumber, but a spell in which she was fading away from the eyes that loved her. Whatever might chance, be it grief or joy, the effect would be the same. Whoever should shake her by the arm—whether the accents of a friend fell feebly on her ear, or those of strangers, like ourselves, the only response would be that troubled cry, as of a spirit that hovered on the confines of both worlds, and could have sympathy with neither. And yet, withal, it seemed so easy to cry to her, 'Awake! Enjoy your life! Cast off this noontide slumber!' But only the peal of the last trumpet will summon her out of that mysterious sleep."

Another curious fact is thus narrated: "Some canoes from the shore have been off to us. We learn from them that there is to be a great annual festival to-day; on which occasion the king, who has been secluded from the sight of his subjects for eight years, will shine forth again 'like a re-appearing star.' There is something very provocative to the imagination in this circumstance. What can have been the motive for such a seclusion? was it in the personal character of the king, and did he shut himself up to meditate on high matters, or to revel in physical indulgence? or, possibly, to live his own simple life, untrammelled by the irksome exterior of greatness; or was it merely a trick of kingcraft, in order to deify himself in the superstition of his people, by the awfulness of an invisible presence among them? Be the secret what it may, it would be interesting to observe the face of the royal hermit, at the moment when the sunshine and the eyes of his subjects first fall upon it again. The inhabitants from many miles around have come to witness and participate in the ceremonies.

There are to be grand dances, and all manner of festivity; and one of the English captains informed us that he had sold a thousand gallons of rum, within a fortnight, to be quaffed at this celebration. There is another circumstance that may give the festival a darker interest. It is customary, on such occasions, to sacrifice one or two slaves, who are generally culprits reserved for this anniversary. The natives on board deny that there will be any such sacrifice, but admit that a palaver will be held over a slave, who had attempted to escape. Should it be so, the poor wretch will stand little chance for mercy at the hands of these barbarians, frenzied with rum, and naturally blood-thirsty."

At Cape Lahon the French had been punishing the natives, just as we have quoted the account of the American chastisement; and the natural scene contrasts vividly with the doings of civilised man.

"The town is built upon a narrow point of land between the sea and a lake, just at the outlet of two rivers. On the side next the sea, you discern only the bamboo-walls of the town, and a few cocoa-nut trees, scattered along the sandy beach; but on the lake side there is one of the loveliest views imaginable. The quiet lake and its wooded islands; the thousand of green cocoa-nut trees, laden with fruit, and shadowing all the shore; the rivers broad and dark, stretching away on either hand, until lost among the depths of the forest, which doubtless extends into the mysterious heart of Africa; the canoes, returning along these majestic streams with people who had fled; the hundreds of natives who reclined in the shade, or clustered around a fountain in the sand, or busied themselves with the canoes; all contributed to form a picture which was very pleasant to our eyes, long wearied as we were with the sight of ocean and sky, and the dreary skirts of the sea-shore. It was an hour of true repose, while we lay in the shadow of the trees, and drank the cool milk of cocoa-nuts, which the native boys plucked and opened for us. I should have narrated, in the first place, our visit to King Peter, who rules over this beautiful spot. He held his court under an awning of palm-leaves, in an area of more than a hundred feet square, around the sides of which were the little dwellings that conjointly composed his palace. The king received us with dignity and affability; and probably not less than two hundred of his subjects were collected in the area, to witness the interview; for it was to them a matter of national importance. They are exceedingly anxious to adjust their difficulties with the French, and hope to interest us as mediators. By their own history of the affair, which was laid before us at great length, they appear to have been only moderately to blame, and to have suffered a great deal of mischief. King Quashee and nine men were killed, and fifty or sixty houses burnt, besides other damage. These people are a fine-looking race, well formed, and with very pleasing countenances. At our first arrival the women were all at the plantations, in the interior, whither they had fled when our ship came in sight, apprehending her to be French. Towards evening, they returned to the village, and afforded us an opportunity to see and talk with them. They are the handsomest African dames with whom I have formed an acquaintance, and the most affable. It grieves me to add, that like all their countrymen and countrywomen, they are importunate beggars, and seem greatly to prefer the fiery liquors of the white man to their own mild palm-wine and cocoa-nut milk. One of our

party offered rum to the eight young wives of Tom Beggree, our tradesman; and every soul of them tossed off her goblet without a wry face, though it was undiluted, and thirty-three per cent above proof."

For which they are also indebted to European civilisation! And again, with regard to the colonising policy and views of France in this quarter:

"Grand Bassam is one of the many places on the coast where the French have recently established forts and raised their flag. Three large houses are visible. The one in the centre seems to be the military residence and stronghold; the other two are long buildings, one story high, and are probably used as store-houses. A picket-fence surrounds the whole. At Assinee, likewise, which is now in sight, there is another French fort, consisting of a block-house and two store-houses, encompassed by pickets. The French government are also fortifying other points along the coast, in the most systematic manner. The general plan is, a block-house in the centre, with long structures extending from each angle, two for barracks, and two for trading-houses; the whole enclosed within a stockade. They are imposing establishments, and constructed with an evident view to durability. It is said that all but French vessels are to be prohibited from trading within range of their guns, and that a man-of-war is to be stationed at each settlement. The captain of a Bremen brig informed me, that the Danes are about to sell their fort at Accra to the French; he gave as his authority the single Danish officer remaining at Accra."

At the Gaboon "they are apprehensive of difficulties with the French, and wish the English and Americans to interpose. According to their story, the commandant of a French fort, three miles distant, had attempted, a short time ago, to procure a cession of their territory. This they constantly refused, declaring their intention to keep the country open for trade with all nations, and allow exclusive advantages to none. After several trials, the commandant apparently relinquished his purpose. A French merchant-captain now appeared, who ingratiated himself into the favour of the simple King Glass, invited him to a supper, and made his majesty and the head-man drunk. While in this condition, he procured the signatures of the king and two or three chiefs to a paper, which he declared to be merely a declaration of friendship towards the French, but which proved to be a cession of certain rights of jurisdiction. Next morning, the French fired a salute of twenty-one guns in honour of the treaty between Louis Philippe and King Glass, and sent presents which the natives refused to receive. They now apprehend a forcible seizure of their territory by the French, and desire our interposition, as calculated to prevent such a national calamity. Our captain, however, declined to interfere, or to express any opinion in the premises, on the ground that it was not his province to judge of such matters abroad, unless the interests of Americans were involved. The missionaries have perhaps some agency in this movement. They see the probability that the Catholic priests will follow them to the Gaboon, and subvert their influence with the natives."

But let us quit ambition and encroachment for more miscellaneous information. At Axim, where the Dutch are settled, claiming about thirty miles of coast and twenty into the interior, "the natives possess slaves; and there are also many 'pawns,' of a description

seldom offered to the pawnbrokers in other parts of the world; namely, persons who have pledged the services of themselves and family to some creditor, until the debt be paid. It is a good and forcible illustration of the degradation which debt always implies, though it may not always be outwardly visible, as here at Axim. The governor himself, who is a native of Amsterdam, and apparently a mulatto, is one of those pawnbrokers who deal in human pledges. He is a merchant-soldier, bearing the military title of lieutenant, and doing business as a trader. The governor of El Mina is his superior officer, and the fort at Axim is garrisoned by twelve black soldiers from the former place. War has existed for several years between these Dutch settlements and their powerful neighbour, the king of Appollonia, who is daily expected to attack the fortress. In that event, the people in the neighbouring villages would take refuge within the walls, and there await the result. The native houses are constructed in the usual manner, of small poles and bamboo, plastered over with clay, and thatched. They might be kept comfortable if kept in repair, but are mostly in a wretched state, although thronged with occupants. The proportion of women, as well as children, appears larger than in other places; and they wear a greater amplitude of apparel than those of their sex on the windward coast, covering their persons from the waist to the knee, and even lower. The most remarkable article of dress is one which I have vaguely understood to constitute a part of the equipment of my own fair countrywomen—in a word, the veritable bustle. Among the belles of Axim, there is a reason for the excrescence which does not exist elsewhere; for the little children ride astride of the maternal bustle, which thus becomes as useful as it is unquestionably ornamental. Fashion, however, has evidently more to do with the matter than convenience; for old wrinkled grandams wear these beautiful anomalies, and little girls of eight years old display protuberances that might excite the envy of a Broadway belle. Indeed, fashion may be said to have its perfect triumph and utmost refinement in this article; it being a positive fact, that some of the Axim girls wear merely the bustle without so much as the shadow of a garment. Its native name is 'tarb koshe.'

At Accra "all the Europeans have native wives, who dress in a modest but peculiar style, of which the lady of Mr. Bannerman may give an example. She wore a close-fitting muslin chemisette, buttoned to the throat with gold buttons, a black silk tunic extending to the thigh, a coloured cotton cloth, fastened round the waist and falling as low as the ankles, black silk stockings, and prunella shoes. This lady is jet black, of pleasing countenance, and is a princess of royal blood. In the last great battle between the Europeans on the coast and the powerful King of Ashantee (the same who defeated and slew Sir Charles McCarthy), the native army was put to total rout by the aid of Congreve rockets. The king's camp, with most of his women, fell into the hands of the victors. Three of his daughters were appropriated by the English merchants here and at Cape Coast, and became their faithful and probably happy wives. One of the three fell to the lot of Mr. Bannerman, and is the lady whom I have described. These women are entrusted with all the property of their husbands, and are sometimes left for months in sole charge, while the merchants visit England. The acting governor of the British fort, Mr. Topp, departs

for that country to-morrow, leaving his native wife at the head of affairs.

"The natives at the Gaboon, to whom these excellent people are sacrificing themselves, are said to present more favourable points of character than those in most other parts of Africa. They are mild in their manners, friendly to Europeans and Americans, and disposed to imitate them in dress and customs. They own many slaves among themselves, but treat them with singular gentleness, and never sell them to foreigners. They are very indolent, and make no adequate improvement of their advantages for agriculture and trade. Their country is excellent for grazing, and the cattle of the best kind; but they take so little forethought as to sell even the last cow, should a purchaser offer. Consequently there are hardly more than thirty cattle left in a tract of country capable, in its present state, of sustaining a thousand. King Glass is an old man, much inclined to drink, yet more regular than any of his subjects in attendance at church. Toko, a headman, is very shrewd and intelligent, and highly spoken of by Mr. Wilson, in reference to his moral qualities. Will Glass, nephew to the king, is blessed with a couple of dozen wives, and seldom moves without a train of five or six of them in attendance. He paid a visit to our ship in a full-dress English uniform, said to have cost three hundred dollars. On the other side of the river lives King Will, a great man, and with the reputation of a polished gentleman. The slave-trade is carried on in this king's dominions; and while I write a Spanish slaver lies at anchor off his town, waiting for her human cargo."

With this we conclude our long extracts from so small a volume; but we trust their variety and interest will save them from the blame of being either too long or tedious.

Works of Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, Bart., M.A. : Zanooni, 1 vol., pp. 439; Night and Morning, 1 vol., pp. 546. 12mo. London: Saunders and Otley.

We have been, and the public will be, much gratified by the appearance of Sir Bulwer Lytton's work in this new, cheap, and convenient form. *Zanooni* is dedicated to Gibson the sculptor at Rome; between whose portraits and his own (marble and literature) the author institutes a pleasing comparison. Of the story itself, we need not repeat the eulogy of the *Literary Gazette* on its first publication: we now, as then, consider it to be one of the finest manifestations of the mind and the imagination of the writer. Partially covered by an interesting cloud of mysticism, in Gaetano Pisani and his English wife he has typified genius and doubtful simplicity, and in Zanooni and Viola exaltation of soul and devoted human love. The delicious repose of the early scenes renders the contrast of the latter part most impressive; and we struggle through the blood-stained horrors of the French Revolution, the fall of Robespierre, and the tragical catastrophe, with feelings of almost a painful nature. Of the domestic tale, entitled *Night and Morning*, our opinion is also on record. It possesses an acute discrimination of character, and is wrought out with intense dramatic effect.

We have already Mr. James' historical romances and other popular works in the course of serial publication, and produced in a manner to extend them widely through all classes of the community, and thus cultivate the taste and improve the literature of the country; and we have also Mrs. Bray following his judicious example, at shorter intervals between the issue

of her novels. To these add Sir B. Lytton's volumes: and what a delightful little library may be put together within the space of a few months!

Murray's Hand-Book of Spain. By Richard

For. 2 vols. To speak of this work as a mere guide for travellers in Spain would be an absurdity; for high as is the character of Murray's Hand-books, both at home and abroad, the present publication is far superior to the best of them. Truly may the title-page claim for it to be "for readers at home;" for it is to all intents and purposes (as well as for its immediate object) an excellent Spanish history, and an able and discriminating description of the manners, arts, literature, legends, and condition of the country. Mr. Ford's patient labours, his acquaintance with the Arabic, and all his other eminent qualifications for the task he has here fulfilled in the most satisfactory manner, cannot be too highly appreciated. His general observations and his minute and particular intelligence are of similar merit—like the elephant, he has managed the largest and the smallest matters with equal power and dexterity. In short, he has got together a wonderful mass of information of every kind; and produced one of the most admirable books of the sort that ever was published.

Like hyper-critics, we have looked sharply for omissions, without success—perhaps with the exception of a single instance, and that may be an oversight on our own side; but we tried to find at Madrid some account of the *Real Academia de la Historia* of Spain among the public institutions, and found it not.

Well-executed maps, a copious index, and all other necessary accessories, complete the merits of this book; which, as we have already said, is not only a perfect *vade mecum* for travellers in Spain, but a treasure of various, instructive, and delightful reading for English libraries.

Despatches and Correspondence of Lord Nelson. 8vo, Vol. III. Colburn.

This volume, embracing only twenty months, from 1st Jan., 1798, to August 1799, yet comprises two of the three most important events of Nelson's life, viz. the battle of the Nile and the execution of Caraccioli (leaving Trafalgar to conclude the series); but we can now only announce it, and reserve its consideration for a future *Gazette*.

The Tiara and the Turban. By S. S. Hill, Esq. 2 vols. Madden and Malcolm.

ROME and Constantinople having been visited by the author, he has given us the impressions they made upon him under the above fanciful name. A tour in Sicily also comes within the scope of the publication; but though every point and object is substantially treated, we do not discover so much of novelty in the work as to induce us to take it up with observations after the numerous books on the same ground we have for years and recently had occasion to review. Had it not been for his precursors, Mr. Hill's remarks would have deserved more detailed attention; but as it is, we can only congratulate him on not turning Mussulman at the conclusion of his travels.

The Prairie-Bird. By the Hon. C. Augustus Murray. R. Bentley.

We are glad to see this striking tale made a volume of the *Standard Novels* (the 98th, by the way); it is well worthy of a place beside the best of the set.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

THE ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

LETTERS have reached us from the Arctic Expedition, dated 13th July, at the Whale Islands, where the Erebus and Terror took their stores and provisions from the tender, and sent her back to England. They had a tedious and stormy passage out; and though very late, it is to be hoped they were not too late to do much this season; but knowing what was before them, we regret to say we cannot expect they will accomplish what they might have done had they been a month earlier.

Their last accounts from the whaling fleet stated, that they (the fleet) were at the Normans Islands (in lat. 73°), and that whales were plenty, and the promise of a very successful fishery this season. The last winter had been a very severe one; but an early breaking up of the ice seemed to be in favour of our brave navigators. But we are informed from the best experience, that the whales coming over to the eastward is a bad sign, as it leads to the inference that there is little or no west water for them.

From these circumstances, and still encouraging the hope that matters may turn out more auspiciously as the season advances, we cannot disguise the impression made upon us, viz. that the adverse aspects of the weather, &c. may cause a less successful result to the expedition than we anticipated when it left our shores. With two such commanders, and men so tried, we may rest assured that all that mortals can do will be done. The result is in wiser hands than ours; and we trust that our doubts or fears can only be traced to our wishes. They are all well, and in high spirits.

AIR-ENGINES.

GREAT saving and increased safety and comfort must result from the practical application of compressed air to locomotion. Mr. Parry's working model is a great stride in advance, and stimulates high hopes of success. In it the condensed air acts directly on the pistons, and of course with a continually decreasing force. This would be a decided objection to substituting the elasticity of condensed air for that of steam; but Mr. Parry's invention includes a regulating chamber, by means of which the working pressure may be at will raised to a maximum for driving up, reduced to a minimum for running down an incline, or kept at a mean for level working. The mean, moreover, is insured by a self-acting regulator between the working receiver and the high-pressure reservoir, which admits the air uniformly with the discharges from the driving cylinders. The patentee invites the attention of all persons concerned in railroads, navigation, and mill-work, to the merits, efficiency, economy, and advantages of his air-engine. We trust that economy will not prevent the early testing of the efficiency of the invention: the model merits it.

SUBAQUEOUS TUNNELS.

OUR notice of last week, on this subject, has brought us a letter from Mr. Brown, whence we select the following further particulars: "The tunnel or tube could be built on clips on the banks; when completed, the extremities being closed, it could be launched, when it would float like a ship; it might then be hauled over its future bed. Hollow flanges, running along on each side and below the centre of gravity of the tube, might then be filled with heavy materials (that already dredged from the bottom might do), and the whole sunk into

its place of rest: the extremities being opened, the communication of the opposite banks would be completed. In cases where there was a sufficient depth of water, trenching would be unnecessary: the tube could rest equally well on the bed of the water. If the tunnel were of considerable length it could be launched gradually, and if subaqueous valleys were to be crossed, as the tube, with its load, might be nearly of the same specific gravity as the water, there would be no strain of the material excepting from passing carriages. Indeed, where there were no strong undercurrents, and the depth too great, as in some lakes, the whole tube might be suspended in the water from bank to bank. In favourable circumstances, the tube might be fitted with a piston, and stationary engines exhausting the air on one side, the carriages being attached to the other, the whole would become a well-ventilated atmospheric viaduct. The expense of such tunnels would obviously depend, to a great extent, on the cost of iron and the mode of construction adopted. I have made no suggestions as to the latter, but have calculated roughly that the cost would be enormously inferior to that by any of the usual methods of crossing such rivers, lakes, or arms of the sea. J. A. BROWN.

Malvernston, Aug. 12, 1845.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

BRITISH ARCHEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION,
WINCHESTER.

WE resume our report of the valuable and interesting contributions of the Congress at Winchester, not only to the various branches of antiquarian research, but to church-history, architectural art (though past, yet substantially applicable to the present and future), and the improvement of existing institutions, by unfolding their original plans and inherent powers, with a reference to Mr. Wright's paper on municipal privileges, &c., illustrated from the archives of Winchester and Southampton (see last *Gazette*, p. 530, col. 1).

Intimately conversant with the literature, customs, and social life of the middle ages, Mr. Wright commenced with some general remarks of considerable importance before he proceeded to his curious details. The following extracts will afford an idea of the character of both.

There are few subjects on which more has been said in past times, and with less satisfactory results, than on the origin of municipal corporations. The result of recent researches appears to be, that they are derived directly from the *municipia* of the ancient Romans. In the breaking up of the empire, the corporate towns, strong in their walls and in the hardy courage of their inhabitants, naturally fostered by the comparative freedom of their institutions, resisted long, and often successfully, the attacks of the barbarian invaders, and only yielded on terms which probably secured to them their old institutions, dependent on a new race of monarchs, who soon perceived the advantages which were to be gained by preserving and supporting them. Without entering into a comparison of the Roman and medieval municipal systems, I will merely state, that there is scarcely any part of the latter of which we cannot distinctly recognise its prototype in the former; and in the French and Italian towns of the middle ages the names and titles even of the Roman municipal officers were preserved. In England we unfortunately want an important portion of the chain of history as concerns these institutions; for we know but little of

the position of the Anglo-Saxon towns with regard to the state, little of their internal condition, and still less of their relations with the other powers by which they were surrounded.

One thing is certain, that no greater error has been committed, than that of supposing that the privileges granted to towns by their first charters were new privileges, which they had not enjoyed before. The chief privileges claimed by the corporate towns of the middle ages were, that of managing their own affairs and of jurisdiction within their boundaries, that of electing their own governing officers, freedom of commerce, and a definite limitation of taxes to which they were liable from a superior power. It is now nearly eight centuries and a half since, in 1006, the invading Danes ravaged Hampshire, but were unable to reduce the city in which we are now assembled. On this occasion the Saxon chronicler exclaims, 'There might the Winchester men see an army daring and fearless, as they went by their gates towards the sea, and fetched themselves food and treasures over fifty miles from it.' It is more than probable that at this time the city of Winchester enjoyed all the privileges just mentioned.

Seven years after, it submitted to the Danish dynasty, as before to the Saxon from the Roman, and probably on both transfers preserved its privileges. Other towns, different from royal, sprung up around great ecclesiastical establishments, with rights mentioned in the essay, and baronial castles became the nuclei of others.

Towns which originated in this manner were governed by officers appointed by their lay or ecclesiastical lord, until, by some means or other, they had purchased or extorted this right from his hands. In England the great barons were in general liberal towards their dependent townsmen, whom they found more useful as friends than as slaves, and they surrendered to them successively their feudal rights on terms more or less easy. The ecclesiastical lords, who, in the middle ages, were conspicuous above all other classes for their tyranny and greediness, were much less generous; and many of the towns dependent upon them did not emancipate themselves without sanguinary struggles, as was the case at St. Albans, Dunstable, and several other places. In the towns which depended immediately upon the crown, the king was in general a lenient lord. . . . A corporate town was most exposed to encroachments, and most sensitive also in its commercial relations. It might shut its gates, and man its walls, and set at defiance the open assaults of its enemies; but its merchandise had constantly to pass through territories where local and oppressive duties were levied upon it, which the townsmen had not always the power to resist, and which they could only resist in a foreign court of law, where the Normans insisted upon charters as the only valuable evidences of the exemptions which they claimed. The first attempts of the old corporate towns were therefore directed to the acquisition of charters of this kind; and the earliest known charter of the city of Winchester, granted by King Henry the Second, while it acknowledges the previous incorporation of the citizens as a merchant guild, orders that throughout his dominions 'my citizens of Winchester, of the guild of merchants, be free from all toll, passage-duty, and custom, and that none presume to disturb them in these things, or do them any injury or insult.' It was necessary in these times, for the good government of a corporate town, that it should possess

the entire jurisdiction within its own walls, and relating to its own domestic affairs, free from interference from without; and a fertile source of annoyance would be found in the attempts to carry a cause which belonged rightly to the borough-court into the court of the king, or into those of the barons. The next charter obtained by the citizens of Winchester was, therefore, one granted at the beginning of the reign of Richard I., exempting them from the obligation of pleading without their own walls, and from the trial by duel, which had been introduced by the Normans, and was contrary to their ancient customs, which latter are spoken of in the charter itself as being the grounds on which these privileges were claimed and conferred.

In 1207 Winchester obtained, from King John, charters, by which they possessed the fee-farm of their town for ever, and the right to elect their own magistrates; which virtually made the corporation a great barony. The cost, however, paid to the crown was considerable. From some unknown cause, the charters of Winchester and Southampton have been lost from this period to the fifteenth century. Mr. W. goes on to state:

'In all republican governments, where an individual is suddenly raised by his fellow-citizens from a position of equality to one of the highest superiority, it is found necessary to cover the want of natural dignity in the individual by an excess of inviolability and outward pomp in the office; and this was peculiarly the case in the medieval towns, where the office of mayor had to be placed in near rivalry with the pompous state of a feudal lord. This inviolability extended also to the officers who formed his 'council of state'—the *peers* of the city or borough, who at Winchester are designated in early records by the somewhat poetic title of *douze pairs*; while at Southampton they seem to have borne the more familiar and affectionate title of 'good-fellows.' Disobedience to the mayor, in his slightest orders, was a punishable crime. By a municipal statute of the city of Winchester, passed in the seventh year of the reign of Henry VIII., it was decreed:

'That from henceforth every citizen of the city aforesaid shall come at the commandments of the mayor for the tyme being, upon paine of every one of them that make default to forfeite half a pounde of wax.'

By a much earlier statute of this city, a heavy punishment was decreed against all who 'slandered' the mayor or any of the members of the corporation; and as the parties aggrieved in this case were the sole judges, we may take it for granted that they gave a large interpretation to the word. In a court-roll of the second year of the reign of Henry VI., one John Parmenter, of Winchester, is accused of having 'blasphemed' the mayor and others; this 'blasphemy' consisting in his having said, 'that the said mayor with others designed to sell the mill of the city, and to seal a charter thereof with the common seal, without the assent of the commonalty of the said city.' For this crime he was punished with a fine of forty shillings—an enormous sum at that time. The earlier corporation-statutes also appoint a very heavy punishment for all who 'against say' the city's charter. In matters of this kind, the inhabitants of a medieval town were not allowed much freedom of speech.

These townsmen, were, in fact, a turbulent set, and it required no small degree of authority to keep them in any thing like good order. The commercial transactions—not only between the retailers and their customers, but between

one tradesman and another—during the middle ages, were especially characterised by the most unprincipled dishonesty, and were the constant unfailing sources of municipal legislation and litigation. Strict laws defined the limits within which each person might trade or work, without overstepping the bounds of his fellows; and the whole system is marked by the most extreme jealousy of strangers and interlopers. A few examples will give the best notion of the character of these enactments. At Winchester, in the seventh year of the reign of Henry IV.,

"It was assented and agreed that straunge bochers stand in three places to them assigned, and not in diverse places, as before this it hath byn used; and that thei bringe with them the hide and the talow of every beast killed out of the cite."

By another enactment of the corporation, of the same date, strangers were not allowed to sell fish in the town; and in order to hinder the fraudulent evasion of this law by persons who represented themselves as persons buying for lords, it was ordered:

"Item, that no ffyssher nother cooke dwelling within the cite be no byer for no lorde nor for other stranger, as thei hath done before this tyme, in no wyse except he be an howsholde servant."

Another evasion of these laws against strangers appears to be guarded against by the following enactment of the 22d Henry VIII.:

"Also the same daye it is ordeyned that from hensforthe no common caryer within the cytie of Winchester shall nother by nor sell within the said cytie, nor enjoye the liberties of the said cytie, upon payne of forfeiture of all suche goodes so bought and solde to the use of the baylyffes."

These principles continued to be acted upon down to a late period. Early in Elizabeth's time we find a long act of the corporation of Winchester for the protection of tailors and hosiers against foreigners who came to establish themselves in the city 'at diverse quick tymes.' In the 22d of Elizabeth we find an act of the corporation to protect 'cobblers and shoemakers,' and to correct 'sundry abuses' which had arisen amongst them. In the eighth year of Elizabeth's reign it is ordered:

"Item, that no bocher stranger commyng to the eytyl doo bringe any vaele to sell that shalbe blowen or otherwise unlawfully stuffed, upon payne to forfayte for every defaulte xijd. videlicet, vjd. to the baylyffes, and vjd. to the poore people."

Both at Winchester and Southampton there appears to have been from an early period a great jealousy of what are called in the records 'typping howses.' In the latter place, these 'typping howses' appear to have been quite as abundant as the inns in the present town. In the mayoralty of Walter Baker, about the 20th year of the reign of Henry VIII., the following entry occurs in the journal of the common council:

"For the better encrease of handy craftes and good occupacions within the towne of Southampton, and exchyng of idenes, nyght wache, and unlawfull games within the same, which is comenly used and growen by reason that every other howse is a bruer or a tapper, wherfor it is agreed the vijth day of July, in the xxliij yere of King Harry the vijth, by all us whos names be underwriten, that there shalbe appointed within the said towne a certen of bruers bothe of ale and bere to serve substancially the said towne, and also a certen yu every wach to be tappers of the same, fynding suretie that no nyght wache no unlawfull games shalbe usid within there howses, butt good rule according to the order of the kinges lawes; and hit is agreed that no comyn bruer of ale or bere use to tapp bere or ale within there howses, butt to serve the customers in groce, that one may lyeve by another, upon payne to for every tyme offending ijij. liijd."

The municipal magistrates appear to have had constant occupation in attending to the petty quarrels and offences of the townsmen, among whom (as in most classes of society during the middle ages) morality seems to have been at a very low ebb. The court-books and

registers of fines levied for such offences are filled with notes of 'affrays,' and of other offences of a still less creditable nature; and it may be noticed passingly that the priests and friars are not unfrequently met with in these documents in very equivocal situations. The following are a few scattered cases of the reign of Henry VII., taken from a register in the archives of the town of Southampton, which will help to give some idea of the manners of the townsmen of that place [some of the most indecent, in which priests and others are concerned, cannot be printed]:

"Item, a fyne made by a galyman that made ij women dronk when master Bray was in towne, vjd. vijd."

"Item, a fyne made by a woman that brake Agnes Biewettes hed with a peyre of tonges, xvd."

"Item, a fyne made by Nichol de Catere for calling Peryn Barbour knave, ij."

"Item, a fyne made by the osterle at the Crowne the xxliij day of Febr. for pykyng of a Lombardes purse, xixs. jd."

In one instance a man is fined only because he intended to commit an offence:

"Item, a fyne made by a pilot for cause he wold a made a fray, xijd."

I never understood so well the manner in which the streets of our old towns became so rapidly raised above their original level, till I found in a record of the fifteenth century at Canterbury a person presented to the court as having emptied out three waggon-loads of horse-muck into the public street. Dead cats, or even dogs, are sometimes thrown into the public road on our days; but you will hardly fail to be surprised when I tell you, that early in the fifteenth century an inhabitant of Winchester is presented by the jury as having thrown into the middle of the street—a dead horse.

"Many of these entries prove the watchfulness and jealousy with which suspected persons were observed by the municipal authorities, even in their domestic actions. Others shew us the singular expedients often resorted to, to guard against dappers and accidents. . . ."

On the other hand, the authorities were expected to provide abundantly for the relaxation and amusement of the townsmen. It appears to have been part of the mayor's office to see that plenty of bulls and bears were provided for baiting. This was carried to such an extent, that a butcher was liable to a fine for killing any bull which had not previously been baited; and we find many entries like the following, which is taken from a book of receipts, of the reign of Henry VII., at Southampton:

"Item, of Thomas Mayett, for a fine for kylyng a bulle unbaytid, xiiijd."

The bulldogs kept by the butchers for this purpose appear to have been the terror of the town; and one of the offences frequently mentioned in the court-rolls of the city of Winchester is that of butchers letting their bulldogs run about the town unmuzzled. It appears from the corporation-journals of the city of Winchester in the 30th year of the reign of Henry VIII. it was ordered:

"That from hensforthe they shalbe no bulstake set before any mayor's doore to bayte any bull, but onlie at the bull ringe within the saide cytie."

One of the most frequent items of payment ordered by the corporations of Winchester and Southampton in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, was rewards to minstrels; and the mayors were obliged to give frequent and often sumptuous feasts. The testimony given by the records to municipal eating and drinking in former times is perfectly astonishing; and this must have swallowed up no small portion of the revenues. In the fifteenth century, the 'auditors' of Southampton appear to have dined

at the expense of the corporation three or four times every month; and when a week passes without the accustomed charge, the item is still set down, as though it were something remarkable. For instance, we find, in 1469, the following entry:

"Item, payde the ix day of Novembre nothing, for the auditors dynd with the mayre. viiij."

In the time of Elizabeth, the mayors appear to have become negligent even of giving the dinner customary on their election; for in the eighteenth year of her reign it is ordered, that the mayor should give a dinner on his election, or forfeit five pounds. It may be observed as somewhat singular, that the first attempt I have noticed in any of these books to suppress trading on Sundays occurs in the journals of the corporation of Winchester, in the sixth year of Henry VI., when it is ordered that shop-windows should be shut, and that no wares should be sold on that day. . . .

"The documents which have escaped from the wreck of the mass of older municipal documents in almost every town in the kingdom contain still a vast mass of valuable materials for the history of the great struggle to which I allude; and it is much to be desired that they should not only be carefully preserved and arranged, but that they should be made accessible to the historian."

Connected with municipal archives, another paper was read by Mr. Wright, and a third, drawn from those of Leicester, communicated by James Thomson, Esq.;* and as these records bring to light much popular and entertaining matter, we shall bestow equal care upon their report.

ARCHITECTURE.

On Wednesday forenoon Mr. Edward Cressy, the architect, well known to the world both by the soundness of his opinions and the merits of his practical works, delivered a lecture on the architecture of Winchester Cathedral, which attracted much notice, and was listened to with great attention. His minute and comprehensive examination of the building, and the poverty and importance of some of his deductions respecting Saxon remains therefrom, certainly justified this feeling; and has induced us to go as far into the subject as our limits would allow.

After a brief retrospect of the introduction of Christianity into Britain, Mr. C. said: "The numerous cathedrals and churches built of stone throughout England, from the period of St. Augustine's arrival to the Conquest, are so well attested, that we cannot believe the whole to have been swept away before the eleventh century, and that now we have not a vestige remaining; that style which had for its peculiar character simplicity, and Roman construction for its model, cannot have wholly disappeared, while so many buildings which served the Saxons for imitation remain scattered over the greater part of Europe. The fantastic character found in the sculpture, sparingly introduced in the capitals and over the entrances of their buildings, and which materially differs from the Norman, agrees precisely with the embellishments met with in the Saxon manuscripts that have come down to us. An Eastern, or rather Byzantine, invention pervades the design as well as execution of the works of art of this period. But as the arts were ever the attendants of Christianity, there is no good ground for supposing that they did not accompany St. Augustine, any more than that they did not

* We neglected to mention, that the paper on Roman roads from Winchester, in our last, was by Henry Hather, Esq.

spread throughout the kingdom of Charlemagne, on the banks of the Rhine, the shores of Italy, Sicily, Spain, and other countries where they are abundantly found. It has become a very general opinion, that we can shew no remains of Saxon architecture, and that the sumptuous churches and cathedrals erected by the Saxons in the most solid and perfect manner only a century before the Conquest, were destroyed by the Normans, that others upon a grander scale might be constructed on their sites by that enterprising people. It has also been doubted whether St. Augustine's at Canterbury, erected in 605; Southwell Minster, 630; Hexham, in 674; Malmesbury, in 675; St. Albans, in 793; Peterborough, in 970; Ely, and others, were built of stone. The church and monastery of St. Peter's and St. Paul's (Bede, lib. i. cap. 33), as begun by St. Augustine, was a stone edifice, and formed with arches and columns, as was also old St. Paul's at London. St. Augustine was interred in the first-named monastery, "*en porticii ellius aquilonari*." St. Peter's at York; the cathedral at Lincoln, built by Paulinus; St. Peter's at Wearmouth, by Benedict Biscopius, in 675, also had pillars and arches of stone, as well as others erected by Wilfred, and described by Eddius. This writer, in his mention of St. Andrew at Hexham, founded in 674, expressly says that it 'had deep foundation, subterraneous rooms, pillars, porticos; and that it had not its rival on this side of the Alps.' Richard, a prior of this church (Richardi Prioris, Hagust, lib. i.), who wrote an account of this church about a century after the Conquest, when it remained in the state left by the Saxons, not only alludes to the crypt, but informs us that the walls were of an immense height and length, and that they were supported on columns of varied forms; they were divided into three stories, and the whole church was surrounded by chapels, and that spiral staircases allowed you to pass above and below to every part. In the stairs, which were made of stone, landings and various windings were contrived, to approach the different galleries; so that a multitude of persons might assemble about in the body of the church, and yet not be visible to any that were below in it—the peculiar character of a Roman basilica. That pillars, arches, vaulted roofs, windows, porticos, galleries, towers, staircases, altars, with a variety of ornament and decorations, were made use of by the Saxons, all writers who allude to their constructions bear ample testimony; and we know also from the best authority, that previous to their conversion to Christianity they made use of Roman buildings for the worship of their divinities, and that Pope Gregory recommended St. Augustine not to destroy them, but only to remove the idols they contained, and afterwards consecrate them to Christian purposes. The manner of building introduced by the Romans, the cutting and hatching of stone, the forming of mortar, and more particularly a concrete with flint or gravel, and even chalk, was not only adopted by the Saxons, but continued in use for many centuries after they were subdued by the Normans. Both churches and castles are found with their walls and arches so formed. The cathedral at Winchester exhibits much of this construction, the earliest part of which may be attributed to the time of St. Ethelwold, who finished it about the year 980.

A biographical history of this celebrated "constructor" followed; and Mr. C. proceeded to describe the crypt, where, though the ground had accumulated to nearly the level of the capitals of the columns, enough was visible to prove that the work was of a date long prior to the

great central Norman tower. He then came to treat of the transepts, where the junction of the two styles, Saxon and Norman, is palpable even to the uninitiated eye.

"The transepts, where attached to the tower, shew in part that they have been reconstructed, and that additional strength was given to the piers when that was done. In the western aisle of the north transept the junction of the Norman with the Saxon work is very evident, as is the difference in the character of the masonry of the two periods. By a careful measurement of the several piers in the transepts we readily detect the changes they have undergone, and are enabled to account for the horse-shoe shape given to some of the main arches that rest upon them. The smaller piers (one of which in the south transept is nearly perfect) are set out with great regularity, and measure 9 feet 8 inches from west to east, and 8 feet 2 inches from north to south. Their form is that of a Greek cross, with arms 2 feet 7 inches in width, with large and small columns placed around them, three of which on each side have their centres on the same circle. The symmetry and order in the setting out of the pier which remains perfect shews us the knowledge in geometry which Ethelwold must have acquired; and its application is of the most extraordinary kind for that period, when we fancy the sciences were entirely forgotten."

The details in the demonstration of this and other statements we could not make intelligible without diagrams, but they were acknowledged to be very complete and satisfactory; and Mr. C. remarked:

"We must not imagine that the simplicity by which this form is characterised denotes the knowledge or first step made in science by a rude people, but that it results from a study of what was necessary to be contrived before the wall of a lofty church could be built capable of containing aisles, galleries, passages, and openings, the effects of which you now behold, and which are beautifully alluded to in the history of the Saxon churches. . . . The transepts, particularly that on the south side, have an undoubted Saxon character, and formed a portion of the cathedral built by Ethelwold, and finished in 980. The masonry is indifferently executed, but the mortar is so good that it compensates in some degree for this. The mouldings are rudely cut as well as sparingly introduced. The capitals of the main pillars alone shew an indication of the carver's art, and they are uniform in their style. The capitals of the triforium and columns of the clerestory are of the same family, and shew the like poverty of design. They are cut out of a single block of stone, with the exception of the tile-like abacus, which is bedded in coarse mortar upon them. The shafts of the original columns are built up in seventeen or eighteen courses, each formed of two stones, and alternately presenting a perpendicular joint in the middle of each; those of a recent date are more judiciously worked with small stones the whole diameter of the columns. The side aisles have simple mouldings 10 inches in width, which serve as cross springers for the vaulting, 17 ft. 1 in. by 15 ft. 2 in.; and the moulded ribs are so much better worked, and their joints so closely united, that we may consider they were the work of the Normans. . . . On examining the Saxon work on the exterior, particularly on the west side of the south transept, we have no difficulty in detaching it from the Norman, and we are compelled to admit its inferiority of construction when compared with the masonry of the great tower in the centre. . . . The small circular openings

of the triforium are portions of St. Ethelwold's church, some of them in the clere and ground stories have undergone alterations, being enlarged and ornamented with the double billet and a small quatrefoil ornament rudely carved. The greater part of these enrichments appear to have been introduced after the walls of the building were erected; and it is a curious fact, that in no part of these transepts is there any indication of the zigzag ornament, with the exception of that in the southern transept attached to a pointed arch, and which is of a known subsequent date. Windows introduced into the eastern aisles of the two transepts are of a much later date, and occupy the Saxon windows, parts of which may in many places be easily traced.

The lecturer then observed upon the whole building: "Before we quit this part of our subject, let me call in the aid of your imagination to contemplate the entire church built by St. Ethelwold. I would not confine your attention to the crypts and transepts, which are alone visible—a nave, choir, and chapel beyond, over the middle crypt, with a large central tower, formed a complete whole, and I hope to convince you that these are not entirely destroyed, but that the nave and west front still remain, enclosed within another exterior."

Differing thus from Milner, Carter, and Britton (to the latter of whom Mr. Cressy paid a high compliment as the "foster-father of the pointed style"), Mr. Cressy went at length into the various differences, relying on careful measurements, from which he selected and made out his Saxon remains.

"The massive tower of Winchester, built by St. Ethelwold, at the junction of the transepts, nave, and choir, having been thrown down, and injured some parts of the walls, and two divisions on each side which were in connexion with it; when Walkelyn was appointed to the see, he commenced rebuilding it, and completed it in the solid manner now presented to us. The mouldings and zigzag ornaments, which adorn the two stories of the interior, and the one above the roof within, at once shew a difference of style to the transepts, and leave no doubt of their Norman design and construction. . . . The Saxon edifice was not, therefore, pulled down, but restored at its junction with the tower, after the latter was completed; another important fact is, that the tower is not square, its breadth being exactly that of the nave from out to out one way, and that of the transept the other, which leads to the conclusion, that it was built in accordance to a site already defined by the Saxon church, or marked out by one previously occupying its place; to have made it square, it must have been extended either beyond the walls of the middle aisle of the transepts, or have been made to comprise only a portion of the nave, afterwards altered by Wykeham. . . . Walkelyn does not appear to have done more to the building than erect the tower, put the remainder into a state of repair, and reconstruct the entire timber roof, he having obtained permission from the Conqueror to cut down as much timber in the forest of Hampping as he could carry away in three days; it is said that he took away the whole, which greatly angered the king, who remarked that he had been too liberal in his grant, and the bishop too exacting in the use he made of it."

The font with the quaint legend of St. Nicholas was next discussed; and adverting to another most interesting building (afterwards illustrated in a paper by the Rev. S. Jackson), Mr. C. said: "Henry de Blois, from 1129 to

1171. This bishop, nephew of the Conqueror, and brother to King Stephen, was the founder of St. Cross, or rather the re-builder of the church and hospital which had been established there as a convent by the Saxons. He probably completed those portions of the cathedral which were in progress when he was appointed to the see—for we find in the walls of the south transept two pointed and two semicircular arches, decorated with the zigzag, which for style and workmanship correspond with the architecture of St. Cross. The mouldings introduced on the outside of these transepts around the Saxon windows is probably his work also, as they appear to be let in, and are not bonded with the other masonry.

On another important architectural feature, Mr. C. observed: "Pointed or lancet style, from 1180 to 1270, is met with in the cathedral church at Winchester, earlier than at any other church, even before that at Salisbury, which was commenced about 1214. The clustered pillars of Purbeck marble, with its delicately formed mouldings, set out upon more scientific principles, can be studied here in all its perfection. It seems extraordinary that the first example we meet with of this original style, and which exhibits such extraordinary lightness, when compared with the architecture it took precedence of, should here be found developed, and constituting an order which afterwards spread through England, and by degrees became introduced into all our ecclesiastical buildings. The Temple Church, completed in 1240, and numerous churches of the churches in Kent, particularly that at Stogge, all exhibit the same perfection and design in the setting out, the sculpture, and mouldings. Wells, Salisbury, Exeter, Lincoln, York, Canterbury, and other examples, might be cited, which are so similar in their work, that apparently the same moulds have been made use of for the decorative parts. It would seem that one spirit breathed through the confraternity of masons by whom these buildings were erected. The setting out of De Lucy's architecture has been already alluded to, and it requires you to bestow upon it considerable attention: for in it you well see the nucleus of all the forms which the pointed style in after-times sported in, and which seemed like a chrysalis, or rather, in many instances, the work of fairy hands."

The lecture continued to hand us down, with much information, through the years till we came to the famed William of Wykeham, who purchased the use of the stone-quarries of Quarr Abbey, in the Isle of Wight, then in great repute. This stone we find used in the repairs and additions at a very early period, as well as long after Wykeham's time. It is of an excellent quality; but has not been commented upon by the commissioners appointed to examine into the merits of the material to be used in the new houses of parliament. His reconstruction of the cathedral is fully described; and we learned, that "in one of the northern divisions of the nave, and directly opposite the chantry of Edington, are remaining unaltered the capitals and columns that supported the lower main arches of the Saxon church; and above the vaulting of the nave, as well as above that of the side-aisles, may be seen, throughout their entire length, the remains of the Saxon construction. In the triforium story, from the vaulting, over the side-aisles, the entire arches which discharged the weight over the Saxon triforium remain over every division of the nave. Wykeham preserved all above this main arch of the triforium, cutting down only the main arches of the lower story, and taking out the two smaller of the triforium; after this was done he introduced the present arches, struck from four centres, and recessed the piers as we now see them. From the gallery of the present triforium may be seen the stuffing or filling in with chalk of the Saxon wall; and the mortar which so firmly holds the mass together, and forms a concrete of great strength, may be examined. As Wykeham did not undertake this work until he was seventy years of age, it was not entirely completed at his death. . . . The gallery of the present triforium is forty-two feet from the pavement of the nave, and occupies the level of the capitals of those which constituted St. Ethelwold's triforium; so that what formed two stories of the Saxon cathedral made but one in Wykeham's. The form given to the new arches contributes by its strength to compensate for those which have been taken away. In the clerestory we find no part of the Saxon walls destroyed; the glass of the windows in it was on the same level as at present. The peculiar and singular form given to the heads of the clerestory windows by Wykeham was evidently caused by that prelate's desire to maintain the strength of the Saxon walls, and not cut into them more than was necessary."

Upon a grand general principle Mr. C., after paying a high compliment to Mr. Joseph Gwilt, who, he regretted, would not read to them at this meeting his paper on the ratio of the points of support—a subject that he had studied most thoroughly and usefully, said: "The Dorians, when they erected a portico of four columns, seem to have set it out in the following manner:—Within a square the whole figure was comprised. Five cubes were given to each of the four columns, and twenty were divided among the intercolumniation. Upon the twenty which formed the four columns were laid as many more to constitute the pediment and entablature. The square which comprised the whole may be said to be divided into sixty-four; twenty were applied to columns, twenty to entablature, and twenty to intercolumniation; the other four being rejected, as they formed the parts of the square above the slopes of the pediment. A tetrastyle portico in the Ionic order was set out with this difference: half the whole, instead of a third, was given to void, the proportions between the supports and the supported being alike: the weight was always made equal, and no more than its supports. Hexastyle, octastyle, and other temples, if examined, are found to be set out upon the same principle. In the sections of the several cathedrals the proportions of mass and void are found materially to differ from those which the Doric and Ionic methods present. The masses of the section in the cathedral at Winchester, added together, are 42 ft. 7 in., whilst the whole extent is 101 ft. Here the points of support or mass are a little more than a third. At the cathedral at Ely, in the choir, the voids are as 66 ft. 8 in. is to 97 ft.; at the cathedral at Salisbury as 68 ft. to 100 ft.; at that of Wells as 58 ft. to 88 ft.; at Roslin Chapel as 29 ft. 9 in. is to 49 ft. 4 in. In the Doric style there is two-thirds material and one-third void; in the Ionic half and half; and in the best examples of the pointed style, as Bath Abbey Church, there is only one-third material to two-thirds void. Hence, in viewing the economy of the three

styles, they are as 1 to 2, 2 to 2, and 2 to 1; the pointed style being that which requires the least material; the Ionic next; and the Doric requires as much for its masses as the pointed style does for its voids: it is the very reverse in its application of material; what is mass in it, or rather its proportions of mass, become voids in the other, and *vice versa*. Therefore, henceforth, let the pointed style be reckoned as the most economical in the demand it has upon material."

To conclude (for we can by no means do justice to this scientific paper, which we trust will be published): "The whole building is remarkable for its simplicity and solid construction, and for its exhibiting specimens of Saxon, Norman, lancet, and all the other styles which succeeded, which have received a nomenclature as numerous as the specimen here treated of."

Three O'clock Meeting.
His gratified audience having accompanied Mr. Cressy to the cathedral, and gone over all its interesting parts with him, the second meeting of the day ensued, when, *inter alia*, Mr. Halliwell read a remarkable account of the life and writings of John Clapstone, a philosopher and alchemist of Winchester, in the reign of Henry VIII., and hitherto unnoticed by any writer on alchemy. After remarking on the benefits to science and useful discoveries made whilst pursuing the philosophy of stones, and other vagaries, Mr. Halliwell referred to a ms. volume of the neglected Clapstone's in Rawlinson's collection of the Bodleian Library (C. 92), the memoranda in which were singularly illustrative of the age and the writer's occupation. He had astronomically calculated his nativity "in the Chepe, London, July 21, 1483, at 2nd 1st, p. m.;" was apprenticed to a hosier, probably at Winchester, where he was in 1502. The death of his father, in 1503, left him heir to the competent income of 42 marks a-year; and, thus independent, he began his scientific career. Of its fruits several examples were quoted; but as we cannot teach our readers how to convert the white medicines into the red elixir, or discover the philosopher's stone, or elixir vite, we must again resign the worthy Clapstone to his Bodleian obscurity—only stating that he was also a poet, of which proof is given in this ms. volume.

The mayor handed a letter, which had been sent to him as a literary curiosity, to Mr. Wright, who proceeded to read it with becoming gravity; but had proceeded only a short way, when it was discovered to be a piece of waggish pleantry, which Mr. Corner and Mr. Jordan pointed out had already appeared in print. It nevertheless contributed a laugh and some amusement to divert antiquarian research.

Mr. Roach Smith read a communication by Mr. J. Y. Akerman on the mints and mintage of Winchester under Anglo-Saxon and early English monarchs. By the laws of Athelstan the privilege of coining in many places was limited, and seven moneyers licensed in Canterbury, three in Rochester, seven in York, eight in London, and six in Winchester. The coins of the latter, and the marks upon them, were described; "Win," "Wint," and other abbreviations, were specified. The pennies of Edgar, Edward the Martyr, Ethelred the Unready, Canute, Edward the Confessor, William the Conqueror, and William Rufus, invariably bore both the name of the moneyer and the place of mintage. In the reign of Henry I. a fire destroyed the mint of Winchester, the palace, and many churches; but in 1125 the place had been restored and Winchester appointed

* William of Wickham must have committed great depredations on the New Forest when cutting the wood allowed by the king for its rebuilding. There is, by measurement, 12 tons of timber in each division of the roof of the nave. The lead appears to match, being no less than 8 tons.

to be the only coining mint in England, in order to reform the debased coinage of the kingdom, and again make it sterling and current on the continent. About the reign of Henry III, money ceased to be struck here, and the mintage was confined to London, York, and Canterbury.

Mr. Roach communicated his observations on the fortifications of Southampton, parts of which he considered to be Saxon, and other parts from the ninth to the eleventh century. An amusing conversation ensued, whether the site of Canute's famous reproach to his courtiers was on the sea-shore here; and it seemed to be pretty well agreed that the story was altogether apocryphal and the site nowhere!

At the president's soirée, in the latter part of the evening, old Winchester measures, curiously engraved horns, coins, rings, &c., were plentifully exhibited; and an agreeable diversion was created by his lordship presenting a unique piece of antique conventual needlework wrought with venerable beads, to be disposed of by lottery among the ladies present.

Before inserting the annexed letter and enclosures from Mr. Roach Smith, which speak for themselves, we ought historically to state that, whilst the British Archaeological Association was holding its second congress at Winchester, with the effect demonstrated by our report of the proceedings, the president, Lord A. Conyngham, received a communication from the Marquis of Northampton, in which that kindly-disposed and estimable nobleman made a new proposition (no doubt suggested by the Session, or No. Two Archaeologists) to heal the breach in the general cause. It was to the effect that both divisions should change their name, each adopting a modification of the original and existing title. As this was announced to spring from the noble Marquis himself, and not from the adverse committee, it was necessarily acknowledged as a personal courtesy; but, as inviting overtures from the authorities of the British Archaeological Association, of course distinctly declined. In fact, at the present moment, having surmounted so many obstacles thrown in its way, and concluded a meeting so successful, that the unanimous press and public opinion have recognised its rights, it would be a gratuitously suicidal act to give up its acknowledged good name, or surrender its proud position.

Without alluding to this subject, we cannot but say that the disingenuousness betrayed in the following statement from a correspondent strikes us as very disreputable. He writes us: "In the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries, just sent round to the members, under the date of April 3, 1845, the following occur among the presents to the Society: 'By Albert Way, Esq., director, 'The Archaeological Journal,' published under the direction of the General Committee of the British Archaeological Association, No. 5, Svo, 1845.—By Mr. Alfred John Dunkin, 'A Report of the substance of the several Speeches at the Special General Meeting of the Archaeological Association, March 5, Svo, 1845.—By C. R. Smith, Esq., F.S.A., 'A Verbatim Report of the Proceedings at the Special General Meeting of the Members of the Archaeological Association, March 5, Svo, 1845.' Not only has the title of the British Archaeological Association been here designedly mutilated in the titles of the two works last enumerated; but it is as evidently designedly stated that the Verbatim Report was presented by Mr. Smith, whereas I distinctly heard Sir Henry Ellis state from the chair that it was presented by 'The British Archaeological Association.' Mr. Way is said to be the author of these 'Proceedings,' will the Society of Antiquaries allow itself to be made a cat's-paw in the hand of its director, to endeavour to rob a kindred institution of its name and credit?"

To the Editor of the Literary Gazette.

Sir,—I was at Winchester when I read Mr. Turner's letter printed in the *Gazette* of Aug. 2d, respecting the late Rev. J. Hodgson, the historian of Northumberland, and his connexion with the British Archaeological Association. I, of course, was too much engaged with the business of the congress to be able to turn to letters which had long since been packed away at my residence in London; but I now take the earliest opportunity of referring to the letter-book of the Association for the proof demanded of Mr. Hodgson's adherence to the Association, to which he had been long since, by my persuasion, elected a member, and also a member of the local committee. This was done by me entirely out of respect to the veteran antiquary, whose devotion to antiquarian research had exhausted his worldly resources and ruined his health. No other member of the committee had, I believe, ever corresponded with him. After the general meeting he received from us a circular, in reply to which he sent me the following letter:

"Hartburn, 14th March, 1845.

"My dear sir,—I take the liberty of writing to you on the subject of the Archaeological Society, because you very kindly wrote to me on the same institution, and on my book on the Roman Wall. I very highly approve of the resolution No. 4.* If the Association have not a copy of my Pipe Roll on Northumberland, and have room in one of their shelves for one, it would greatly gratify me to have the honour for leave to forward to them a bound copy in any way they may choose to direct.—Believe me to be, with very great regard, your most obedient servant, JOHN HODGSON.

"I have had a most painful winter, and still write very badly.

"To Charles Roach Smith, Esq., Hon. Sec. of the British Archaeological Association."

The book referred to was subsequently forwarded for the Association. Other letters were received by me, which I expect related chiefly to private matters, and may therefore be buried in voluminous collections, which I have neither leisure nor inclination, for so needless a purpose as the present, to sacrifice an hour or two in looking over; so I will content myself with giving the following, directed to me officially.

* Resolution No. 4. "That the members of the Association be divided into two classes, associates and correspondents. That the associates consist of subscribers of one guinea or upwards per annum, or of a life-subscription of ten guineas, by which they will be entitled to receive a copy of the society's Journal, to attend all general meetings, and to vote at the election of officers of the committee. That of the correspondents no contribution be required; that they be entitled to attend all general meetings, but not to vote at the election of officers and committee."

The first is in reference to the Winchester congress:

"Hartburn, Morpeth, 29th May, 1845.

"My dear sir,—I received a letter from you yesterday which delighted me, because it was in a handwriting which gave me pleasure; and pray assure the committee of the British Archaeological Association, that I should be glad to be of every use I could if I could either see, talk, or say a word in a public meeting. I will, however, endeavour to procure you some antiquarian papers; and a parishioner of mine, who is now at his father's house, will be happy to aid you. Pray pardon my bad spelling and writing, and believe me to be most truly yours,

"JOHN HODGSON.

"To Charles Roach Smith, Esq., Hon. Sec. of the British Archaeological Association."

"Hartburn, 9th June, 1845.

"My dear sir,—When I had the honour of receiving a letter from you respecting the British Archaeological Association, I think I omitted, as I usually do, to add to my name any additional signature; but think you will like to add to it M.A., M.R.S.L., Vice-President of the Newcastle A.S. I can add nothing more; as my medical gentleman has just left me and says I must by no means write a word more than a single sentence, both my head and eyes being so very tender.—Yours, my dear sir,

"JOHN HODGSON, M.A., &c."

"To C. Roach Smith, Esq., Hon. Sec. of the British Archaeological Association, &c."

I am not aware that Mr. Hudson Turner's name was ever published in the list of members of the British Archaeological Association; but I feel convinced that when Mr. Hodgson wrote to him the letters sent you by Mr. Way, he supposed that that gentleman was acting in concert with me.—I remain, sir, your faithful servant,

CHARLES ROACH SMITH.

VARIETIES.

Readings in Shakespeare.—We have had an opportunity of witnessing during the last week, at Hampstead, the performances of Mr. John Read, of Liverpool, a gentleman who has lately been gathering provincial laurels in the northern counties as a reader of Shakespeare; and who, we presume, is now feeling his way before a suburban audience, preparatively to his appearance at a more favourable season in London. Mr. Read's selection of subjects consisted of *Hamlet*, *Henry the Eighth*, and *Macbeth*. We were present at the reading of the last only; but as this work is of a nature to test more thoroughly than almost any other of the great dramatist's creations, the abilities of an elocutionist, we consider ourselves competent to pronounce generally on his merits. He has evidently studied his author "with a flourish," as well as a loving "spirit"; and his possessions, in an organ of utterance equally rapid and complete in its transitions, and firm and correct in its general tone, the means of giving effect to his nice conceptions of Shakespearian character. In the present state of the drama, his varied and energetic, and (what is curious, considering that he, as we understand, never was upon the stage) his histrionic powers, in the best sense of the term, are quite remarkable, and well calculated to delight the public.

Subscription for the Family of T. Hood.—We expected that this subscription would have mounted higher than the thousand pounds now advertised; but the classes on whose behalf his pen and genius were devoted are too poor to shew their gratitude to their benefactor; or perhaps the difficulty of finding means to en-

able them to evince it is too great to be surmounted. The pounds of the few admirers of worth and talent may readily be obtained; but the pence of the thousands of fellow-creatures, who would rejoice in contributing their mite in thankfulness to the great popular pleader of their cause, cannot be collected. It is a pity; for such would be the noblest memorial.

Archæology.—The Winchester meeting seems to have stirred up a right feeling for the preservation and restoration of national antiquities in many parts of the country. We have an appeal from *Great Yarmouth* for a fund to restore the ancient church of St. Nicholas there, and to renovate the remains of the adjacent priory, now used as a *stable*, for a national school.—Another communication has reached us earnestly calling for the restoration of the Norman tower at *Bury St. Edmunds*, which threatens an immediate and irreparable fall. Only an addition of five hundred pounds is needed to save this beautiful object.

Monument to the Earl of Leicester.—The foundation-stone for this monument (by public subscription) was laid in Holkham Park, on Tuesday, with appropriate ceremonies, by Lord Colborne. There was a turn-out of the population of the county, a grand procession, and a munificent entertainment to high and low who attended on the occasion. One of the matchless tents of Mr. B. Edgington received some 1500 guests at a time with perfect convenience and comfort: such a structure is in itself a curiosity worth travelling a long way to see.

St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell.—This interesting relic of monastic antiquity, belonging to the very beginning of the sixteenth century—the last example remaining in London—has long threatened to yield to time; but we are glad to hear that a subscription has been opened to defray the expense of its complete restoration.

French Professional Honours.—The Paris Académie de Médecine has elected our countrymen Sir Benjamin Brodie, Dr. Marshall Hall, and Mr. Lawrence, foreign associates.

The British Museum.—The entire eastern wing is now in course of demolition, to make way for a new stone wing to correspond with that on the west side; so that the old Montagu brick edifice will in two years have a stone wing of quite different material and architecture on each side—liver and gizzard!

St. Peter's, Rome.—Gulignani's Messenger states that this glorious cupola is cracked in many places, and in danger, though supported by ten massive arches of iron.

The Tiber.—The offer of an English company to the Pope to deepen the bed of the Tiber has been renewed. A similar offer was some time since made by a party of Jews; each hoping to remunerate the expense by the treasures of coin and art which might be found.

Antiquities in Holy Island.—The *Berwick Advertiser* mentions the discovery of some ancient remains on the north side of the island by workmen employed in making a road. They appear to occupy an acre and a half of ground, and probably belong to the oldest religious foundations of this sanctified isle. Two coins of Ethelred and some Saxon scattas, in fine preservation, have been obtained.

Change of Weather.—Mr. Green, who was up in the clouds about 2800 yards with his wife on Tuesday, gives it as his opinion that there is about to be a favourable change in the weather!

Richardson's Theatre.—This long-popular receptacle for the more legitimate drama than is to be found in most of the London theatres was destroyed by fire at Dartford on Monday at midnight.

Duke of Sussex's Library.—The sale of the sixth and last division of this collection commenced on Tuesday, and was to conclude yesterday. It consists of 925 lots, including a number of publications on the occult sciences. The rest are of little curiosity or value.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

The Rise, Progress, and Prospects of the Schism from the German Catholic Church, by S. Laing, fep. 8vo, 5s.—Plane Trigonometry and Mensuration, for the Use of the Royal Military College, by William Scott, M.A., 8vo, 3s. 6d.—History of the Conspiracy of Catiline, and of the Jugurthine War, by C. C. Sallustius, translated by E. Peacock, post 8vo, 1s. 6d.—The Village-Paupers, and other Poems, by G. W. Fulcher, 2d edit., fep. 5s.—Notes on Isaiah, by A. Barnes, 8vo, 15s.—Sonnets, by F. Skurray, fep. 5s.—Rev. F. Howes' Translation of Horace, fep. 6s.—Letters of the Marchioness Brigati Sforza, fep. 5s.—Cæsar, King of Lydia; a Tragedy, by Harrison, 8vo, 1s. 6d.—Grammar, 2d edit., 12mo, 4s.—Rev. C. Arnold's Boy's Arithmetic, Part II., 12mo, 3s. 6d.—The Royal Favourite, by Mrs. Gore, 3 vols. post 8vo, 11. 11s. 6d.—A Sketch of New South Wales, by J. O. Ralfour, post 8vo, 6s.—New Zealand and its Aborigines, by W. Brown, post 8vo, 8s.—The Law of Registration of Voters, by D. C. Moylan, 12mo, 4s. 6d.—Political Dictionary; a Work of Reference, Constitutional and Legal, Vol. I., square 8vo, 15s.—The Levite, or Scenes Two Hundred Years ago, by Elizabeth Murphy, 3 vols. post 8vo, 11. 11s. 6d.—Practical Cook, English and Foreign, by J. Berghon and A. Miller, fep. 7s. 6d.—Foreign Library, Vol. XVI.: Schlosser's History of the Eighteenth Century, Vol. VI., 8vo, 14s.—Only a Fiddler and O. T., by the Author of "Improvisatore," translated by Harry Ivimey, 3 vols. post 8vo, 11. 11s. 6d.—Miscellaneous, Biographical and Critical, by W. H. Prescott, 8vo, 14s.—History of Ireland, from the Earliest Period to the Year 1245, by J. D'Alton, 2 vols. 8vo, 20s.—Dr. Hawker's Spiritual Reflections on the Scriptures (from his Commentary), 2 vols. 12mo, 9s.—Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, Bagster's Illustrated Edition, 8vo, 7s. 6d.—Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, a Poetical Version, illustrated, fep. 8vo, 4s. 6d.—The Sportsman's Library, by J. Mills, 8vo, 16s.—The Modern Abacus, by John Gardener, 12mo, 2s. 6d.—The Dark River; an Allegory, by Rev. E. Monro, 12mo, 2s. 6d.—R. Jackson's Views of the Formation, &c., of Armies, 3d edit., 8vo, 12s.—Reminiscences of the Coronation, and other Tales, by Mrs. Lane, post 8vo, 12s.—Roma, its Ecclesiastical and Social Life, post 8vo, 10s. 6d.—Hints on the Nature and Management of Duns, post 8vo, 5s.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The variety of matters brought forward and of information given, in the Literary Gazette, will account for our devoting so much space to the proceedings. We need hardly remark to our readers, that it has more novelty than we could derive from reviews of so many books.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The Last Night but One of the Subscription. This Evening, SATURDAY, August 16, will be performed Bellini's opera, "Norma." Norma, Made. Grisi; Clelio, Made. Bellini; Adalgisa, Mdlle. Rosetti; Pollione, Sig. Moriani; Flavio, Sig. Dal Fiori; and Oroveso, Sig. Labache.

Between the acts a divertissement, from "Eoline; ou, La Dryade," comprising the scene of the Dryades. Eoline, Mdlle. Grabin. In the course of the evening, the admired Spanish dance, La Casillane, by Mdlle. Lucile Grabin and M. Perrot. To conclude with the admired divertissement, by Mdlle. Certo, entitled "La Vivandière." The music arranged and composed by signor Fagnoli. La Vivandière, Mdlle. Certo; Le Fustillon, M. St. Leon. Introducing Pas de la Vivandière, by Mdlle. Certo; and the celebrated Pas de Quatre, from "La Lac des Fées," by Mdlle. Certo, Mdlle. Ferdinand, Mdlle. Moncelle, and M. St. Leon, supported by eight ladies of the corps de ballet; and La Redowa Polka, the original dance of Bohemia, by M. St. Leon and Mdlle. Certo.

Applications for boxes, pit-stalls, and tickets, to be made at the Box-office, Opera Comédiale.—Doors open at seven, and the Opera will commence at half-past seven o'clock.

For the Benefit of Signor Moriani.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

Sig. MORIANI has the honour to inform the nobility, subscribers to the Opera, and the public, that his BENEFIT will take place on THURSDAY next, August 21 (it being the last and farewell night of the season), when will be presented Donizetti's favourite opera, "Lucia di Lammermoor." Lucia, Made. Castellan; Alicia, Made. Bellini; Enrico, Sig. Formasi; Raimondo, Sig. Falcioni; Arturo, Sig. A. Gubille; Normanno, Sig. Dal Fiori; and Edgardo, Sig. Moriani.

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With a variety of Entertainments, in which Mdlle. Certo and Mdlle. Lucile Grabin will appear. To conclude with the admired ballet of "Ondine." Principal characters by Mdlle. Certo, Made. Copere, Mdlle. Ferdinand, Mdlle. Moncelle, M. Perrot, and M. St. Leon. Applications for boxes, pit-stalls, and tickets, to be made at the Box-office, Opera Comédiale.—Doors open at seven; the Opera will commence at half-past seven o'clock.

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The TWENTIETH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Society was held on the 10th of April last, when a highly satisfactory REPORT was laid before the Proprietors and Policy Holders, and unanimously adopted.

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Applications for Agencies, in places where none are established, to be addressed to the Secretary.

NICHOLAS GRUT, Secretary and Actuary.

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29 Vols. 4to.

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THE PUBLISHING SEASON.

November and December are considered the best months for the production of New Publications. No time should, therefore, be lost by Authors wishing to avail themselves of the approaching season in making their arrangements. *Bell's Weekly Messenger*, in reviewing the "Author's Hand-Book," expresses the following opinion: "We can recommend this as a good code *mecon* for ladies and gentlemen intending to publish. It is most elegantly printed and embellished, and contains a list of printing, paper, binding, &c." A New Edition of the "AUTHOR'S HAND-BOOK," price 1s. 6d. is just published by E. Churton, 26 Holles Street.

NOTICE.—Daily Circulation 130,000.—The JOURNAL DES DEBATS, Presse, Constitutionnel, and Siecle, the united circulation of which exceeds 130,000 daily, having reduced their scale of charges, afford an opportunity for advertisers to give publicity to their Establishments and Manufactures throughout France, England, and every part of Europe. Advertisements for the above Papers must be forwarded to William Thomas, British and Foreign Advertising Agent, 21 Catherine Street, Strand, who has been appointed by the directors sole Agent for England. Subscriptions are also received for every Newspaper and Periodical published in Paris, the Scale of Charges for which can be seen in Thomas's List, price 6d.

TO VISITORS TO THE CONTINENT.

Messrs. J. and R. MURKIN, Foreign Agents, and Agents to the Royal Academy, No. 7 Old Jerry, beg to remind the Nobility and Gentry that they continue to receive consignments of Objects of Fine Arts, Bagnage, &c. from all parts of the Continent, for clearing through the Custom-House, &c.; and that they undertake the shipment of Effects to all parts of the world.

Lists of their Correspondents abroad, and every information, may be had on application at their Office as above.

ITALY.—Steam to Leghorn, Genoa, Civita

Vecchia, and Naples, for Passengers and Goods. The Steamer NORTH STAR, Captain GEORGE WILSON, is intended to leave the East India Docks on Wednesday, the 3d of September next, for LEGHORN and GENOA, calling at Gibraltar. Goods forwarded on to Civita Vecchia and Naples by steam conveyance at ship's expense. Carriages and horses taken at moderate rates. Passage-money, including a handsome table and wines, &c., for first-class passengers to Leghorn, 15s. 18s.; servants, 9s. 9d.

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LITERATURE AND ART.

Closing of the Present Exhibition.

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